

conversations



Volume VII, No. 1



Considerations is an independent magazine written for all who are sensitive to the seasonal rhythms of the Earth and the apparent movement of the planets about her. It provides a forum in which there is an opportunity for new and old ideas to be presented, questioned and refined. The magazine is distributed three times each year, by subscription only.

Commercial advertising is not accepted.

Annual subscription: \$25.00

Canada: \$30.00

Europe: \$35.00

(all monies in U.S. funds)

Articles dealing with all aspects of astrology will be gladly considered for publication. All correspondence, inquiries, subscriptions, and articles for publication should be sent to:

CONSIDERATIONS, INC.

Post Office Box 491

Mount Kisco

New York 10549

Editor: *Ken Gillman*

Cover Art: *Hal Barnell*

Circulation: *Wendy Robinson*

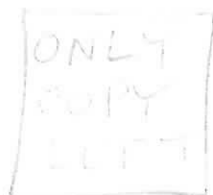
Editorial offices: Goldens Bridge, New York.

All rights reserved.

Reproduction in any form is prohibited except with prior written permission of the Publisher.

(C) 1992

COPYRIGHT: CONSIDERATIONS, INC.



VOLUME SEVEN, NUMBER ONE

CONTENTS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 2 | A RECTIFICATION TECHNIQUE
<i>Jack Nicholls</i> |
| 9 | A TOUCH OF DISTINCTIVENESS
<i>M. J. Makransky</i> |
| 18 | BEYOND THE HORIZON
<i>Rita Bilucaglia & Grazia Bordonì</i> |
| 26 | FINE DISTINCTIONS
<i>Barbara Koval</i> |
| 34 | TOWARDS A BETTER ASTROLOGY?
<i>Andrew Patterson</i> |
| 46 | IDENTIFYING ELECTION WINNERS
<i>Ken Gillman</i> |
| 68 | AQUARIAN MUSIC
<i>Ken Negus</i> |
| 69 | PROGRESSED LUNATIONS, PART II
<i>Cheng-yi Huang</i> |
| 74 | SATURN AND DEPRESSION
<i>Donna Cunningham</i> |
| 79 | BOOKS CONSIDERED |
| 83 | THE CAST |
| 84 | HOW IS YOUR TRADE, AQUARIUS?
<i>Robert Graves</i> |

A RECTIFICATION TECHNIQUE

Jack Nicholls

There are three situations where rectification methods are commonly practiced, viz., the birth time is unknown, the time is known within about an hour either way, or the time is recorded to a minute or so but a precise estimate is needed. The technique to be described is suitable for the second of these categories and generally yields an estimate within a few minutes of the correct time.

A number of major events will be required, the more the better, but at least six should be available for a reasonably accurate result. These need only be dated to a precision which places each event in its correct Solar Return.

The procedure is very simple:

For the earlier and for the later extreme of the unknown range of the birth time, Solar Returns are generated for each event using the co-ordinates of the *place of birth*.

Times are calculated from each pair of returns, i.e. one for each event, which will bring angular return planets or natal planets exactly conjunct these angles. The planets must be symbolically appropriate for the event in each case. The natal planets can be obtained from a chart calculated for either end of the range or from the average of the two extreme times.

The set of times so obtained is averaged to give the required estimate of the birth time.

The first example was used as a rectification exercise in the *Astrologers' Forum* of February 1990. The thirty-seven events listed in Table 1 were given for a woman born on 11th November 1911 at 33S55 151E09. The birth time was not revealed. A variation of the Septenary described by K. Gillman in *Considerations* (1983) enabled the range of the birth time to be limited to 10:17 -- 11:59 AEST. This range was then investigated with the Solar Return method using ten of these events.

Table 1: Events in the life of a woman born in Sydney, Australia (33S55 151E09) on 11th November 1911.

1.	14 March	1883	Father born
2.	17 April	1886	Mother born
3.	9 Feb.	1907	Husband born
4.	17 March	1916	Sister born
5.	mid-	1919	Family moved house
6.	24 May	1921	Brother born
7.	April	1926	Scarlet fever
8.	22 July	1926	Brother born
9.	4 Oct.	1929	Met future husband
10.	15 July	1933	Married
11.	7 May	1937	Moved to NZ with husband.
12.	1 July	1940	Returned to Sydney
13.	during	1941	First house built
14.		1942	Started business with husband
15.		1945	She and husband bought factory
16.		1947	They bought larger factory
17.	11 June	1949	Son born
18.	5 June	1953	Sister died
19.	19 Dec.	1953	Moved house within Sydney
20.	July	1957	Father died
21.	July-Aug	1958	Mother died
22.	May	1960	Surgery
23.	May	1964	Surgery
24.	22 Jan.	1966	Husband died suddenly
25.	July	1968	Negotiated & sold business
26.	29 Dec.	1968	Moved house within Sydney
27.	Aug	1969	Moved house within Sydney
28.	April	1971	Moved house within Sydney
29.	Dec 70-Jan 71		Moved house within Sydney
30.	March	1973	Moved house within Sydney
31.	Aug.	1973	Moved house within Sydney
32.	Oct.	1974	Major financial loss
33.	28 June	1976	Moved house within Sydney
34.	24 April	1979	Moved house within Sydney
35.	1 Sep.	1979	Ill on 4-mnth around-world trip
36.	28 Oct.	1982	Elder brother died
37.	12 Oct.	1988	Surgery

The ten events used were marriage, birth of son, death of father, mother, husband and sister, three surgical episodes, and the loss of a substantial amount of money in a business venture.

Figure 1 is the provisional natal chart calculated for the average of the range at 11:08 hours LT. Figures 2 and 3 are the Solar Returns for *event #17, son born*, the first for a birth time of 10:17 and the other for 11:59. It will be seen that the Sun, Mercury (Xth), Pluto (VIIth) and North Node (IVth) are angular in the earlier return (Fig. 2). The Sun is not considered further as it is still in the Xth in the later chart (Fig. 3) and doesn't become exactly angular in the time range. The natal North Node (Fig. 1) at 29°49' Aries is within the range of the return ICs, 15°39' Aries to 12°26' Taurus. This is the only natal point that would fit within any of the angular ranges (Figs. 2 & 3). Mercury, Pluto and the North Node in the return, and natal North Node, can each symbolically be appropriate for a birth.

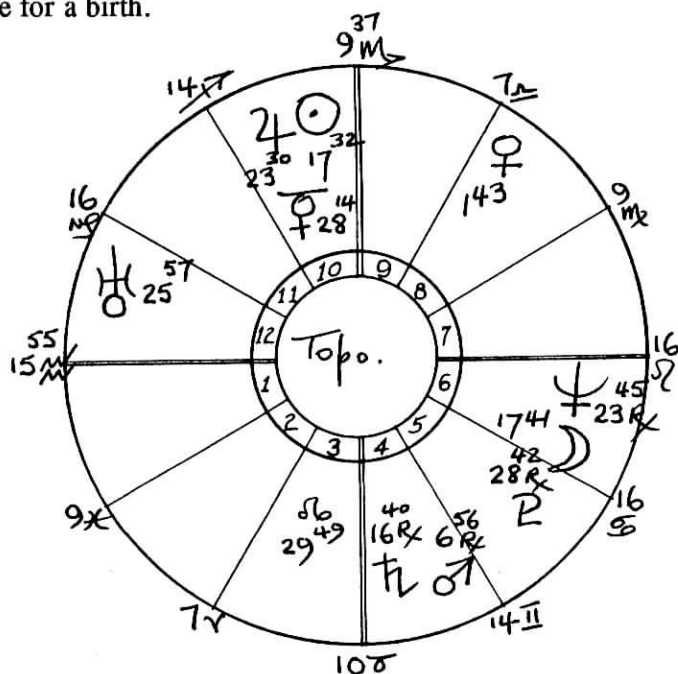


Fig. 1: Provisional natal chart for woman born in Sydney on 11th November, 1911.

Figs. 2 & 3: Alternate 1948 Solar Returns which cover the twelve months during which a son was born.

Fig. 2: Assumes birth time of 10:17 AEST.

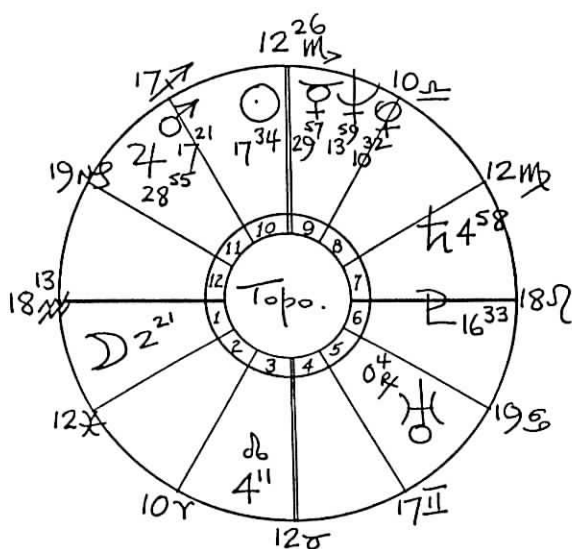
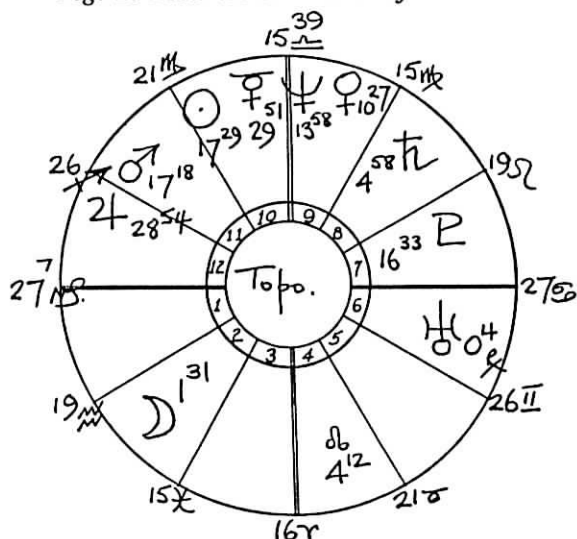


Fig. 3: Assumes birth time of 11:59 AEST.

A simple interpolation is used to calculate the time when each body is exactly angular: the difference in longitude between a planet and the angle of the earlier return is divided by the difference in longitude between the earlier and later angle, and multiplied by the time range. The result is added to the time of the earlier return.

For example, the difference in longitude between Mercury ($29^{\circ}54'$ Libra) and the earlier MC ($15^{\circ}39'$ Libra) is $14^{\circ}15'$. The difference in longitude between the two Midheavens is $26^{\circ}26'$. The time interval between the two returns is 104 minutes. ($14^{\circ}15'/26^{\circ}26'$) multiplied by 104 equals 54 minutes. Add this to 10:17, and 11:11 is the approximate time when Mercury is angular.

For the ten events thirty-eight times were obtained using the above procedure, ranging from 10:19 to 11:52. These possible times are listed in Table 2, in which AS, MC, IC, and DS represent the four angles of the solar return, "s-" indicates a solar return body, and "r-" a radical body.

It is necessary to find an appropriate average to describe this data. The set of times in any given exercise will not necessarily be evenly distributed about a central point. Thus the well-known Arithmetic Mean, which is greatly affected by extreme values, may not be typical. Alternatives are the Median, which is the central value when the set of times is arranged in ascending order, or the Mode, the most frequent or common value. Another possibility is to discard values remote from the central point and take the arithmetic mean of the remainder, giving a "trim mean."

For the thirty-eight times in the example, the arithmetic mean is 11:09, the median is 11:11, the mode is 11:03, and the trim mean is 11:08. The mode = mean - $3(\text{mean} - \text{median})$, and the trim mean was obtained by discarding values more than thirty minutes from the mean.

The recorded birth time was 11:11 AEST.

Deciding on the correct symbolism is aided if the subject's reaction to a given event is known. For instance, the normal reaction to the death of a father or mother would be sadness, whereas the passing of a tyrannical parent may be hailed by the offspring as a blessing. Again, divorce can be a traumatic experience or release from an oppressive relationship.

Table 2: 38 possible birth times from ten events.

<i>Event</i>	<i>Planet</i>	<i>Angle</i>	<i>Time</i>
10. Marriage	s-Mercury	MC	11:07
	s-Node	AS	11:18
	s-Jupiter	DS	11:40
	r-Mars	IC	10:57
17. Son born	s-Mercury	MC	11:11
	s-Node	IC	11:27
	s-Pluto	DS	11:51
	r-Node	IC	11:11
18. Sister died	s-Uranus	DS	10:20
	s-Mars	AS	10:33
	s-Saturn	MC	11:24
	s-Neptune	MC	11:27
	r-Neptune	DS	10:46
	r-Uranus	AS	10:56
20. Father died	s-Mars	IC	10:19
	r-Uranus	AS	11:52
	r-Neptune	DS	11:42
21. Mother died	r-Pluto	IC	10:58
22. Surgery 1	s-Pluto	AS	10:19
	r-Pluto	MC	11:17
23. Surgery 2	s-Uranus	AS	10:57
	s-Pluto	AS	11:11
	r-Uranus	DS	11:42
	r-Pluto	MC	11:47
24. Husband died	s-Saturn	AS	10:44
	s-Mercury	MC	10:51
	s-Pluto	DS	11:20
	s-Uranus	DS	11:23
	r-Mars	IC	10:38
	s-Mercury	MC	11:00
32. Lost money	r-Saturn	IC	10:53
	r-Mercury	MC	11:40
	s-Saturn	DS	10:38
37. Surgery 3	s-Uranus	DS	11:01
	s-Neptune	DS	11:51
	r-Pluto	AS	11:18
	r-Mars	IC	11:36

Queen Elizabeth II is used as the second example.

Nine events, viz., marriage, birth of her sister, births of four children, death of father, accession to the throne, and the coronation yielded a set of twenty-nine times extending from 01:03 to 02:37. A time range of one hundred minutes was arbitrarily chosen, from 01:00 GMT to 02:40. The arithmetic mean was 01:47, the median was 01:44, the mode was 01:37, and the trim mean, obtained by eliminating times more than thirty minutes from the mean, was 01:45. The official birth time for the Queen is 01:40 GMT. For the solar return for 1951, involving the death of George VI and the Queen's accession to the throne, Mars and Neptune were symbolic of the death, Pluto and Jupiter for the new life as Queen.

Note that the fewer times in the set and/or in their distribution resulted in greater variation between the four averages in this second example as compared to the first. Another exercise which provided seventy-eight times from twenty-six events had an arithmetic mean of 03:52, a median of 03:53, a mode of 03:51, and a trim mean (times more than thirty minutes from the mean excluded) of 03:54.

Demi-solars and solstice points can supply extra contacts, but the inclusion of these involves additional work without markedly changing the end result.

#

A TOUCH OF DISTINCTIVENESS

PART I

M. J. Makransky

Much of life is a struggle to find the proper balance between conforming to society's expectations on the one hand, and freely expressing our own feelings on the other. Our socialized behavior brings us the acceptance and approval of other people, but it provides us with none of the inner satisfaction and joy of feeling that we are valuable beings in our own right. Our personal happiness depends upon both types of assurance--knowing that we are members in good standing of our social group, and knowing that we are unique individuals in the cosmic scheme of things.

The first imperative--the need for emotional validation in a social context--is symbolized by the astrological aspects. Aspects reveal areas of adjustment (or lack of the same) between the individual and his social environment. The planetary impulses at work operate on a level of socially conditioned beliefs (fitting in or rebelling). We use these planetary energies in the way our parents and society have taught us to use them. They are creative energies, but they are constrained by the values and judgments of our social milieu and the times in which we live.

The second imperative--the need for emotional validation as a divine being (apart from the opinions of other people)--is symbolized by the parallels of declination. The parallels reveal a sense of specialness unto self; they go off on their own to find an individual answer to some question in life which the aspects address in a conventional, stereotyped, and therefore rather sterile fashion. The parallels exemplify an ideal of individualistic effort--blazing a new trail all alone. They symbolize those areas of life marked by a touch of personal distinctiveness.

In the parallels we have combinations of planetary energies operating in unconditional fashion, on a level of intuition and feeling rather than one of concepts and thinking. We know how

to use these energies without ever having been taught. We use them to express what is in our hearts rather than what is in our minds.

Therefore, a parallel shows an inherently more satisfying use of planetary energies than an aspect does. We can thus say that the parallels are of a benefic nature, although they do tend to isolate us within ourselves (cut us off in this area of life from the rituals of reward and punishment which animate most of the people around us).

For present purposes we will consider two planets to be in parallel if the difference in their declinations does not exceed one degree.¹ Two planets within the same degree of declination, but with one planet north and the other south of the equator, are considered to be in parallel (that is, no distinction will be made here between parallels and contra-parallels). Also, we will only consider two planets to be in parallel if they are not also involved in a major Zodiacal aspect² with 6° orbs. This is done to make it easier to distinguish between the action of the aspects and the parallels. In real life, when both a parallel and Zodiacal aspect exist between the same pair of planets, you should consider this planetary combination to be of particular importance and interest in the native's life.

Preponderance of Parallels: People who have many parallels in the horoscopes (six or more) are emotionally self-contained individuals who tend to seek isolation. Albeit superficially agreeable and pleasing, their natural instinct is to avoid other people or to push them away. They are often self-conscious in social situations because social poise doesn't come naturally to them--they feel they have to fake it somehow. Thus they shy away from the social commitments and entanglements which

1. Readers are reminded that the late Charles A. Jayne Jr. would have questioned this definition. He considered planets to be in parallel if their declinations differed by less than the amount the Sun will move in three days. See *Parallels. Their Hidden Meaning* 1978, pages 20-24. This quibble apart, I'm sure Charles would have been delighted, as I am, by Jerry Makransky's thoughtful article ...Editor.

2. To state the obvious, the major aspects referred to here are the conjunction, opposition, square, trine and sextile. ...Editor

people with no parallels eagerly seek out and enjoy.

These people often seem oddball or quixotic--real characters. They are hypersensitive to encroachment on their private space, and they take an oblique view of their fellow men--suspicious, cynical, superior. On the other hand, they have a deep sense of personal integrity. Attuned to their own inner convictions rather than to canons of social acceptance, they are hard working, thorough, and conscientious.

Absence of Parallels: People who have no (or few) parallels in their horoscopes are sociable, outgoing, and demonstrative. They go into social relationships in a breezy, matter of fact way. They seek their own equilibrium by keeping on top of their social milieu in some sort of controlling role (e.g., the organized one, the charming one, the innocent one, the mischievous one). Whatever role they choose they employ to dominate their social environment--they can usually make everyone around them accept them more or less on their own terms and give them whatever special attention they desire. On those occasions when this support system of other people fails them, they feel totally lost, betrayed, and bewildered.

Before delineating the meanings of the individual parallels, one point should be made clear: a person does not exhibit all of his aspects and parallels at the same time. Typically, a person will have his Venus-trine-Jupiter days, and he'll have his Mars-square-Saturn days. What an aspect or parallel shows is a characteristic mood or mindset which at times comes over those people who share this aspect or parallel. It does not mean that they act this way all the time.

Sun-Moon: The aspects try to reduce everything to simplicity, to be straightforward, upfront, and on the level. The harmonious aspects are more, and the inharmonious aspects are less, successful at getting other people and the world around them to cooperate with this ideal of laying all one's cards on the table. They have very little capacity for guile, and rely instead upon a stubborn logic and contrariety to get their own way when complexities and subtleties become too complex and subtle. They have a genuine, innocent self-delight which however can be perverted into an irritating smugness.

The parallels are warier, more reserved, less inclined to barge into any situation with a handshake and a Howdy. They are just as direct and frank, but without the clatter and effusiveness of the aspects. They are more sensitive to nuances and less naive about their own motives, and they are therefore ultimately more convincing and sincere than the aspects.

Sun-Mercury: The aspects (that is, the conjunction) are extremely defensive and emotionally repressed. They never feel relaxed and secure, and they live in constant fear of being attacked or unmasked. Critical of others, they bristle at any criticism of themselves; and indeed they automatically reject any and all talk about feelings. They are proud, disciplined, and have themselves under very tight control.

The parallels are by no means humble, but they feel no need for apologies or excuses: they are ultimately quite content with who they are. They can see themselves clearly and objectively, and they withhold judgment from themselves; this in turn makes it easy for them to be non-judgmental with others. Where the conjunctions distance themselves from people in fear, the parallels distance themselves by granting other people their due space, and insist upon their own in return.

Sun-Venus: The aspects (the conjunction) tend to find life frustrating and unrewarding, no matter how hard they sacrifice and try to play by the rules. They take every setback as a personal rejection. They generally have little sense of self-worth, and are inhibited by feelings of shame and inadequacy. They can give, but don't know how to accept in return.

The parallels have a great sense of manner, a smooth self-possession, and a sense of belonging no matter what company they find themselves in. They have democratic impulses because they know they are any man's equal; they are not ashamed to take their rightful share of the good things in life. Where the conjunction's moods are tied to the approval or disapproval they receive from others, the parallels are steadier and have an unshakeable sense of their own inner worth, no matter how the tides of fortune flow.

Sun-Mars: The aspects are alert and assertive. They stand up

for themselves and make their voices heard. They have a peremptory manner and a sharp tongue. They are bold and saucy, but are also touchy and quite thorny to deal with.

The parallels have the same bristle as the aspects, and evince the same readiness to stand and stand alone; however, they lack the rebelliousness and contumacy of the aspects. They are every bit as resolute, but not as scrappy and pugnacious. They don't choose combat as their first resort; but rather find that calm, unflinching determination works quite well by itself, with no need for added histrionics.

Sun-Jupiter: The aspects are lively and optimistic. They try to maintain an attitude of cheerfulness and goodwill no matter what circumstances are confronting them. Generally good-humored, they tend to be rather indolent or *laissez faire*. They maintain a detached and ironic view of themselves which buoys their spirit when times get tough.

The parallels are as optimistic and forward-looking as the aspects, but they are not as gushing, nor are they as smug and complacent. They are humbler, or at least lacking in that overweening superiority and swagger which so often characterize the aspects. They are more conscientious because they are more analytical and open to learning from their experience than the know-it-all aspects.

Sun-Saturn: The aspects are serious minded and grave, and are not to be toyed or trifled with. They can be rather scornful or deprecatory of other people, which is their way of dealing with the fear of being hemmed in by them. They have an overriding concern for the maintenance of their sense of dignity and independence, and for the proper amount of respect which they feel is their due. On the other hand, they are hard working, responsible, and punctilious in the discharge of their obligations.

The parallels are just as dependable and serious as the aspects, but they are more laid back and much less demanding. They are not so manipulative, nor as petty in scoring little power points for themselves. Rather, they work steadily at a relaxed and satisfying pace; and they know that anything they're supposed to have will come to them of its own accord.

Sun-Uranus: The aspects have a freewheeling, unpretentious, California kind of style. They're broad-minded and tolerant of other people, and they have the attitude of live and let live. Loose and nimble, they carefully avoid being pinned down and emotionally committed--they try to preserve their freedom of action at all times. Thus, while they are friendly and outgoing, they can also be maddeningly vague, distant, and noncommittal.

The parallels are just as emotionally detached as the aspects, but they are more self-contained. They maintain their independence not through a sidestepping strategy of avoidance, but rather by being collected and in control of themselves, and hence difficult to move or influence. They are not as glib as the aspects, but they are more cautious, penetrating and analytical.

Sun-Neptune: The aspects march to the beat of a distant drum. They are part visionary, part spaced-out, with a taste for the abstract or mystical, and a well-developed set of spiritual and moral ideals. Although generally cheerful, they also have an air of vague worry--a restlessness of nervous, little backward glances. They are forward looking but indecisive, capricious, and inclined to view the world through rose-colored glasses. Their viewpoint is bold and original, but also distorted by its own fancies and imaginings.

The parallels are similarly idealistic and willing to operate on a basis of their own intuition; but they are not so blindly optimistic and naive on the one hand, nor as torn by self-doubt on the other. In contrast to the fluttery aspects, they are more intellectual or logically minded, and have a strong sense of inner stability and being connected.

Sun-Pluto: The aspects are self-absorbed and concentrated upon the path beneath their feet; hence they tend to take a short-sighted view of the world around them. They can be extraordinarily naive or idealistic, and they are given to making black and white judgments. They have the attitude "Damn the torpedoes--full speed ahead!" Albeit courageous and determined, they can also be adamant to the point of unreason. Their extreme self-will combined with complete self-assurance makes these natives very prickly to deal with.

The parallels exhibit the same flashes of crazy independence as the aspects, and they're every bit as mulish; but they have a greater sense of proportion and detachment from their own value judgments. Thus the parallels feel less need to impose or impress their views on others: their extremism is more intellectual, less acted-out; it is tempered by a self-restraint absent in the wildly passionate aspects.

Moon-Mercury: The aspects are quick: quick to pick up on other people's feelings and points of view, and quick to understand and catch on to nuances. They have logical minds and are fond of arguing. Their hallmark is earnestness—a firm belief in common sense and good faith. They depend on cooperation, clear communication, and making intellectual connections without the need for pretension, embellishment, or appearances. They have a nervous, fitful energy, and a blunt and abrupt manner.

The parallels have the same quick intellectual grasp as the aspects, but they are more reserved, and not as explanatory and self-justifying; not as dependent upon convincing other people or securing their agreement. They have a self-critical faculty not usually present in the aspects, and thus they are able to take a calmer, deeper, more philosophical view of life than the aspects. They are more detached in their dealings with people, less urgent.

Moon-Venus: The aspects are optimistic, outgoing, and gregarious, with an appreciation for social grace and niceties. They make a strong effort to please and be pleasing because they are nonplused by conflict, and so try to avoid it through obsequiousness or emotional withdrawal. Contrary to popular belief, not even those with the good aspects of Moon and Venus make happier marriages than anybody else; but there is less tendency to divorce here because the overriding concern for harmony in relationships leads these natives to endure more for the sake of peace.

The parallels feel the same need for order and harmony in life, but they are less fidgety, more easy-going than the aspects, and less dependent upon agreement with others for their own sense of inner peace. They have a better sense of their own

emotional space, and they don't permit other people to disturb their inner balance as much as the aspects do. They know the art of compromising with others without compromising their own true feelings.

Moon-Mars: The aspects are humorous and playful, with a childlike sense of mischief--though they do tend to come on pretty strong. At the same time, they embody a staunchness and courage which command the respect of other people. They are true to their principles and unswerving in their determination, though they also have a Prima Donna streak--they're ornery, and given to pets.

The parallels have the same spunk and cockiness as the aspects, but they are more aloof and impersonal, and therefore less overbearing. They are more impassive than the aspects, who are always taking a stand or proving a point. The parallels feel little need to win (or bowl) other people over to bolster their own sense of prowess because their self-assurance is more of an inner glow than an outer flash.

Moon-Jupiter: The aspects are good natured and amiable, comfortable people to be with. They possess a wry humor and they take a benign interest in other people--detached and non-judgmental. They are determined to enjoy themselves come what may, and simply won't permit themselves to be oppressed or weighted down by other people or circumstance.

The parallels are like the aspects in their positive and constructive attitude and their easy acceptance of other people, but they have a milder and more heartfelt manner than the cool aspects. They have the same emotional detachment, but not the above-it-all self-satisfaction. Where the aspects banter and jest, the parallels communicate a true concern.

Moon-Saturn: The aspects greet experience with a grim, ready-for-anything stance. They are cautious and reserved, and they are quite canny. They always stop or step back for a moment to calmly weigh the pros and cons; they are meticulous, logical, and argumentative. They are not so much inhibited as resolute, girded for action, and prepared in advance for any conceivable contingency.

The parallels are as serious minded as the aspects, and they have the same hesitativeness: when a decision is required they also retreat for a moment to ponder. However, here the reach is towards a deeper understanding rather than for immediate personal advantage. The parallels are conscientious rather than contentious. They seek to comprehend a situation or relationship rather than dominate it through elaborate preparations and defenses.

Moon-Uranus: The aspects are thoroughly self-disciplined, dedicated, and professional. They are unbothered and unruffled (though far from carefree), with little wasted motion or needless expenditure of energy. They are gregarious, but have a blunt manner; and they are restless and intense. They can be coldly analytical, verging on cynical, and can manifest a sneering, heavy-handed superiority and absolutism.

The parallels take the same pride in their competence and fitness as the aspects do, but they are lower key, less overbearing. They have the same cool-headed self-certainty, but they have a genuinely friendly regard for people and a sense of being at their service.

Moon-Neptune: The aspects are soft and vulnerable, and have a wistful, abstracted air about them, as if they were tuned into their own personal wavelength. They have an impish glint in their eyes, as if relishing their own secret joke. They gaze past the things of this world with a look of yearning for some idealized universe. At times you can speak directly to them, looking them right in the eye as they smile and nod back to you, and they won't even hear a word you're saying. But they are true salt-of-the-earth types in their naive optimism and harmlessness.

The parallels are as private as the aspects, and they have the same spritely and winsome manner, but they are nowhere near as woolly. In fact they can be quite shrewd and calculating in employing their pixie-like mischievousness to charm and wheedle other people. They're never so far off in the stratosphere that they miss an opportunity down here on Earth.

Moon-Pluto: The aspects are sedulous and intent; they hum like

little machines at work as they go busily about their tasks. They are most difficult to halt and deflect, or even to influence (much less convince). They are neither open nor amenable to suggestions: if an idea did not originate within themselves, then it holds little interest for them. But they are gritty, tenacious, and indomitable in carrying out their own designs.

The parallels are as wrapped up in themselves and their schemes as the aspects, and they act with the same finality; but they are more flexible and willing to modify their plans as the situation dictates. They are capable of executing a strategic retreat if need be, or of simply waiting patiently. They always keep their sense of humor and perspective.

(To be continued in the next issue)

#

BEYOND THE HORIZON

RITA BILUCAGLIA & GRAZIA BORDONI

Within their necessary simplicity, our text books inform us that the XIIth house is associated with life's afflictions, with solitude, with lengthy, seemingly permanent periods of being shut inside such rather unpleasant places as hospitals and prisons. It is associated with ill luck and sacrifice, with pain and disease, with hidden enemies¹, with intemperance and insanity, with alienation from the present and from material matters, and therefore with every form of genius or mental deviation. Often as a brief aside, the text books will also relate the house to the twelfth sign Pisces, to the infinite and the sense of the transcendent.

1. D. Discepolo. *Guide to Astrology*. Armenia. p 104.

The number twelve is rich in symbolic meaning². It represents the Universe in its interior complexity. In ancient times it was considered to symbolize the time-space division because it is the product of the multiplication of the four elements (Fire, Earth, Air & Water) with the three alchemic principles (sulfur, salt & mercury), or of the *four* cardinal points with the *three* levels or planes of the world.

The importance of the number twelve in Christian symbolism is well known: it is the number of the gates of Jerusalem, the number of the Apostles. Its significance revolves around the concept of creation-recreation, which is derived from combining the four-world-space with the three-time-sacred. Thus, if twelve is at the same time an expression of the maximum multiplicity as well as of the extreme synthesis, flowing or crossing over into each other, it is unavoidable that the different meanings of the XIIth house, and by analogy those of Pisces the twelfth sign, will be much more complex than those we are used to. Our approach to understanding them must differ from those given in the standard texts.

Let's begin by visualizing the horizontal line of any horoscope, the line that corresponds to the Ascendant-Descendant axis. The point we call the Ascendant marks the boundary between the Ist and the XIIth house. The Ist house is below the visualized horizon, the XIIth is above it. We can translate this in a temporal sense, with the Ascendant corresponding to dawn, to that daily moment when the Sun disperses the dark of the night by rising up over the horizon to reassert itself once again as the messenger of light and life. Expressed in horoscopic terms, the Sun is emerging from the dark of the Ist house, where it was below the horizon, and is rising into and enlightening the XIIth.

We are all aware of this obvious daily fact, yet in a sense it is nonetheless surprising. We are so accustomed to reading the birth chart in a counterclockwise direction: starting with the Ist house (Aries) and going to the IIInd (Taurus), then on to the IIIrd (Gemini) and continuing around to the XIIth (Pisces). We do not usually read the birth chart in the clockwise manner the

2. J. Chevalier & A. Gheerbrant. *Dictionary of Symbols*. BUR. Vol 1, p. 392.

diurnal movement of the Sun suggests. The Sun commences its daytime journey in the east at the cusp of the Ist house (Aries), it culminates in the south at Capricorn's Xth house, and sets in the west in the seventh, in the Libran VIIth house.

It is difficult to reconcile this solar movement with the customary attributes given to the XIIth house. It is even harder to relate the period immediately after daybreak to the traditional, restrictive and rather anguished interpretation we have of the Sun in the XIIth house. There Sol is said to indicate moral afflictions, obstacles, a secret life, a lonely fate, mental alienation, poor health, and so on.

It is undeniable that immediately after rising the Sun goes directly into the XIIth house, that the Sun is in the XIIth as the first light of the day shines, that it is this last house and by analogy the final Zodiacal sign that is the first to glimpse the Sun. We remember the words of Christ, recorded in St. Matthew 20:16: "So the last shall be first, and the first last; for many be called, but few chosen."

In Latin the word *orio* means "to rise". *Orior* is contained in *morior*, "to die," meaning that being born is a part of death. The only difference between these two words lies in the "M," the twelfth letter of the Greek-Latin alphabet, which becomes itself a symbol of the synthesis that is created when the two opposing stages--the end and the beginning, death and birth--touch, and each becomes an integral part of the other. They are no longer opposing terms that describe an antithetical reality. Then the XIIth house (Pisces) offers us a concept of death-end, not as a dramatic, irreparable event, but as a necessary preliminary for a rebirth-beginning.

After all, dawn, the beginning of the daytime, confirms the end, it is the death of the night. The night dies and the new day is born. But a whole day contains both the daylight and the darkness, just as, in seasonal terms, Winter dies at the same moment that Spring comes into being, and both seasons are contained within and are part of the year. But are there really two extremes? Isn't one a consequence of the other, one must die in order for the other to be born?

The same principle can be applied to human life. The fetus must cease to be, to die as such, in order to be born as a baby, in order for it to become a more evolved form. Birth-rebirth is

fulfilled then in the flesh, in material matter. The labor of childbirth is like a battle fought inside the mother involving her baby: there is a freeing of flesh, one from the other. Thus we can signify battle = contest = agony = death. This is the final act of a Martian fight, the victory of a new individual, a disjunction from the cosmos or mother, in which the baby as fetus had been living until this moment.

In Greek the word for "mortal" is *brotōs*, the root of which goes back to the Latin *bruto*, meaning brute or gross, an adjective often associated with the term *material* when describing a shapeless entity that has not yet been molded. The concept doesn't change when the word is applied to men. When a man is called a brute we are saying he has not been shaped, not molded by civilizing factors, that he is not yet evolved. Consequently the mortal-*brotōs* is the material being, still to be shaped and molded, and a human's life is just that time and space in which an evolving process can occur that will attain to a state of completeness; it is a prelude to a yet another experience, longed for and not feared at all. And death, suggested by the Greek verb *thanomai* meaning "the wish to die", represents an experience *beyond* material matter, not fighting *against* it.

Those who have worked with the terminally ill³ talk about precise phases that recur in every dying person. There is first an acknowledgement of the disease, then a struggle against it, and finally an acceptance, which leads to a withdrawal from everyday reality as a prelude to the death. If the sick person reaches this withdrawal phase, the death is rather easy, it is a real passing away (a passing beyond). However, if death occurs in one of the earlier phases it can be a painful, difficult event. In horoscopic terms, the VIIIth house, the occult house of death, can indicate a death in which there is suffering, the individual still remaining attached to material matters and, irrespective of age, fearing separation from the flesh. He or she does not yet wish to exhaust the *brotōs* or incarnate experience. In this sense the VIIIth house shows the struggle against a premature, unaccepted and therefore feared and distressing death. By contrast the XIIth house proposes a separation from

3. See for example E. Kübler-Ross, *Questions and Answers about Death & Dying*.

material matters because these are no longer necessary to the individual, who knowingly prepares for death and rebirth in a more evolved form, just as the winter-thaw of Pisces foretells the spring-rebirth of Aries. The Sun rising into the XIIth house therefore indicates a death that will be a transitory passage towards our individual resurrection.

After all, even Christ's Resurrection occurred at dawn. The Gospel of St. Matthew⁴, chapter XXVIII verse 1, says: "In the end of the Sabbath (Saturday), as it began to dawn towards the first day of the week..." This is confirmed in St. Mark's Gospel, chapter XVI verse 2: "And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun."

We are accustomed to consider the Sun in the Ist house as a strong Sun. However, the Ist house Sun has not yet risen. It is an unlit Sun, hidden in a dark zone, and consequently it represents a still developing being, someone who has yet to come into the light, a person still in a primordial stage, an instinctual being.

The birth which occurs in the Ist/Aries/beginning suggests a gradual counterclockwise journey that leads towards the light of the XIIth through the experience of the habitual sequence of each of the twelve houses/signs. This gradual journey is difficult to accept for those born with the Sun in the XIIth house. They already feel the light in their innermost soul, they aspire to a perfection and completeness that is irreconcilable with the moral status of the *brotds*. Sometimes the temptation to take a short cut by committing suicide is irresistible. In the XIIth house the absolute dominates with a dazzling force, here is the key to the notorious, ill-famed deviations we have read about in our text books. It is all here. These deviations can be said to perpetuate the tragedy of Lucifer (the morning star) with the XIIth house. The perfect angel, the "one giving light", is dazzled by the sight of his own perfection and falls into damnation, sinking into the darkness of Hell--meaning a regression to an instinctual, undifferentiated state.

The Lucifer type of deviation refers to someone who,

4. The King James Version is used throughout.

identifying himself with the absolute, remains a prisoner of his own *brotòs* being, thus precluding any opportunity for evolution. This same concept of regression was expressed by Dante who, at the start of his journey of individualization, wrote:

*It was early in the morning,
the sun rose with those stars
which were near him when love Divine
first moved those beautiful things...⁵*

Dante gets lost in the wilderness of sin "in the early morning", which means at dawn, when the Sun stood in the sign of Aries. We are once more at the horizontal axis, between the 1st house and the XIIth. In the 1st we find the darkness of instincts, the obscure wilderness, where men risk to fall and get lost. In the XIIth there is the light of revelation and resurrection. Dante's journey ends between two extremes, Aries and Pisces, which are not only extreme signs but also contiguous, and this contiguity is underlined exactly by the course of the Sun/conscience of the instinctual world of gloom and of transcendental light.

Astrological tradition associates the XIIth house with penitentiaries and suffering, but Purgatory also has the meaning of atonement, which can be assimilated at the time of death from incarnated matter, *brotòs*, as an act of birth-rebirth into a transcendental dimension.

Yet Purgatory is a place for atonement. To atone means "to get out of punishment." If Purgatory equates with atonement, it also relates to the suffering and sorrow which transform and bestow freedom. This can mean physical and psychological pain, something quite unavoidable if we are over-attached to our material reality, which is why our text books relate the XIIth house to long and serious diseases, to time spent in shut-in places. We associate the XIIth house with health and "salutary" problems. Indeed, the word "salutary" comes from the Latin *salus*, meaning also "salvation", so here we can interpret the XIIth house as indicating a lack of well

5. Dante, *Hell*. I v 37.

being, meaning disease, as an experience of material death, aimed at rebirth in the form of a more superior evolution than the previous one.

Rudhyar rightly observes that "suffering coming from the metamorphosis experienced in the XIIth house has such a strong acuteness and quality of unavoidability to be extremely hard to bear. One can't appeal against the universe, unless one is born outside the universe..."⁶ At the time of his passing away, when he is facing death, man is alone, in the loneliness of the XIIth house. It is, however, a necessary solitude, as Hillman states: "...the experience of death is, finally, necessary as to be able to be separated from the common flow of life and discover individuality. Individuality requires courage...courage is needed to choose the test or trial of life and to enter the unknown by one's own decision."⁷

There is courage in the XIIth house. This is not the blind and irresponsible courage of Aries/Ist house, which is somehow always linked to material matters and instinct. Instead, it is that courage of the spirit we usually call *moral strength* or the *strength of the soul*.. It is something brilliant, knowing and illuminated, already beyond human dimension; and just because of this, we find it more difficult to recognize those who really possess it and to forgive those (the community/VIth house) who are forced to bear it.

It is as if the pure energetic force of the Ist house, crossing with the Sun over the horizon, is changed into psychical force. This is why in the XIIth house the Sun is so strong, and has such a particularly vivid potential. This agrees with the finding of circadian rhythms that humans attain their highest intellectual potential during the first hours after awakening, the period that corresponds, in symbolic if not in actual terms, to the initial morning hours, to when the Sun is in the XIIth.

In classical epic poetry it is the dawn dreams that are considered the true dreams. This makes us consider that at dawn the Sun is at its coldest, only then can it be observed like

6. Dane Rudhyar, *The Astrological Houses*, p. 133.

7. James Hillman, *Suicide & the Soul*. p. 49.

the Moon with bare eyes. It is as if at this time the Sun has become another Moon, opening the communicating gate between the solar-consciousness and the lunar-unconscious. Dreams at dawn are certainly more truthful because the cold Sun doesn't burn away the Moon's oneiric message and the conscious part of us, becoming more receptive, succeeds in seizing that which the unconscious is trying to bring into our mind through a dream.

The potentiality of the XIIth house, the price its light demands in terms of loneliness and suffering, can certainly appear excessive. The temptation to avoid paying it may be overwhelming. The *insane*, like the drug-addict and the alcoholic, is an individual who refuses to bear this cross, he turns his back to the light (or he identifies with it) and loses himself in the gray, comfortable relief of an undifferentiated Limbo. By contrast, those who possess the force to acknowledge their own souls and to follow the road which, like that of the Sun, leads up beyond the horizon into the light of dawn, appreciate that in the XIIth house there are no opposing extremes, that life does not oppose death, that these simply meet like two steps on the same ladder. The being who is completing his biological cycle is then ready for transformation, for rebirth in a more evolved and advanced form.

It is not by chance that Pisces, the Zodiac sign corresponding to the XIIth house, symbolizes our feet, an indispensable element for man's erect position, the attainment of which represents the first important stage in a child's evolution. It is here, where we find the concept of the ultimate, that we can say *spes ultima dea*, "hope is the last god." An alternative saying is "as long as there is life there is hope." Here once again the concept of the ultimate, the last, is associated with that of Life. Hence, we would like to add one more attribution to the many associated with this house. The XIIth house is also the house of hope, as Christ's words recorded in St. John's Gospel, chapter VIII verse 12, clearly express: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

* * *

*Translation of text of talk given in
Milan at the VI Congresso Nazionale CIDA.*

FINE DISTINCTIONS

Barbara Koval

Astrology is composed of two parts: science and art. The movement to improve astrology by turning it into a science is just as mistaken as the notion that symbolic interpretation masters all.

Astrology Defined:

A number of years ago, at a convention of the long-defunct Congress of Astrological Organizations, the following definition of astrology was proposed:

Astrology is a theory of correspondence between celestial phenomena and matters of human concern.

The words may not be totally accurate but they are close. Please note, there is no cause and effect in this definition, only co-incidence, synchronicity, simultaneity or whatever you want to call two things happening at the same time that may or may not have a causal relationship.

Process of Astrology:

Astrology, through a system of symbols, enables us to examine people and events and see things we are likely to overlook without it. The symbols are like telescopes and microscopes, tools to enhance our perception of what is. Please not, there is no claim to paranormal activity, prediction, or infallibility.

Purpose of Astrology:

People use astrology to improve their human relationships, calm their fears, enhance their possibilities for success. While they think that prediction accomplished such things, it is, in fact, the awareness produced by astrology that increases one's power to accomplish one's goals. Astrology's purpose, therefore, is to increase power over Fate.

Arguments against Astrology:

1. Astrology cannot prove cause and effect, therefore it's invalid.
 2. Astrology cannot accurately predict, therefore it is invalid.
 3. Astrology makes people weak and dependent, therefore it is both invalid and quasi-criminal.
- In a word, absurd.

Science Defined: Science is a theory predicated on the notion that systematic observation and group assent lead to truth. If enough people see the same phenomena in the same way, it must be accurate and true.

Process of Science: The scientific method sets up conditions, tests, and equations that enhance our consensus-oriented understanding of what is.

Purpose of Science: The purpose of science is to help human beings as a group master their physical and contextual reality through abstract mathematical equations that are eternally true through all conditions and time.

People, through science and astrology, seek to master the human condition. Science attempts to create a mathematical system through collaboration and consensus. Astrology does it individually with a symbolic system already in place. Science denies validity to the isolated individual experience. Astrology sees us all alone and grappling with our design.

Paradox: Science tolerates no contradictions: either/or and nothing in between. Astrology constantly confronts paradox: what happens when Jupiter and Saturn transit at exactly the same time? Does he pass the test or fail?

Astrology tries to make sense out of chaos, without eliminating the chaos. Science uses numbers to destroy chaos and conquer doubt.

Certainty: How wonderful if astrology could be a science! All we need do is punch a bunch of data into the computer and out would come the truth. Every modern astrology book is predi-

cated on this hope. Every modern astrology book is an attempt to re-interpret the symbolism in a format that coincides with the scientific indoctrination, fundamental to modern education. A plus B equals C. If they don't, the equation is invalid. Sun equals A. Moon equals B. Mercury equals C. But, life is not an equation. Mom plus dad equals 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or more little ones, some of which may not live. Symbols are no different. In one context an aspect means C, in another it means D, E, or F. That is not a failure of the system. That is life.

Continuity in Chaos: Alexander Patterson's excellent article, "Why is Astrology so Hard to Learn?"⁸ contained many valid frustrations with modern interpretation. The confusion stems both from astrology and from a general inability in our culture to make fine distinctions. Let's examine his example of *all the interpretations are different* in a number of books for Sun square Saturn. The common theme, not his, follows in parentheses.

1. Tendency to deep-rooted inhibitions.....(inhibition)
2. Self-expression hurtfully limited.....(inhibition)
3. A life of hardship and drudgery.....(external inhibition)
4. Fear of expressing what you truly are....(self-inhibition)
5. You have to learn to like yourself.....(broadly inhibited)
6. A deep feeling of inadequacy and compulsion to achieve in compensation.....(overcoming inhibition)

The common theme of all these interpretations is either external or internal inhibition. They are, in fact, all the same. The essence of astrological interpretation is to pull out of the chaos of conflicting meanings a common theme. In the above example, each author elaborated on a common theme and gave his personal twist, a process common to all artistic endeavor. Everything added to an understanding, not of the aspect, but of the common theme of the aspect.

For instance, what is the common theme of a square between Mars and Saturn? First, you must look at the common

8. *Considerations*, volume VI, number 3, pp. 7-13.

theme of the Signs in which they find themselves. In Cardinal Signs the aspect represents a crisis of action or events; in Fixed Signs, a crisis of feelings or will; in Mutables, a critical decision or failed communication. Next examine the essential meaning of each planet. Mars is aggressive activity. Saturn is limitation or caution. What is their common theme? Both Saturn and Mars have to do with achievement. (This is why Mars is exalted in Capricorn.) Thus, Mars square Saturn becomes a fight to achieve in spite of obstacles in an active mode. It becomes an angry determination to achieve as a feeling or motivation. It becomes a perpetual decision whether to fight or quit in a mental mode. Of course, the complexity is even greater when you add the Houses, and the nature of the aspect as applying or separating, whether it is a transit, a progression, or a natal position, and which is stronger Mars or Saturn in the chart. Real astrologers don't eat quiche.

Both Sides of the Brain: Each and every factor above requires the ability to judge and make fine distinctions. We not only have to analyze the data on the chart but we have to make excruciatingly fine judgments on their relative value. To do that, we have to see what is the same as well as what is different. We cannot assume that a conflict on a chart eliminates one of the components. We cannot conveniently leave anything out to make an equation balance. Side effects and fallout are bonded to every interpretation.

Astrology demands the use of both sides of the brain, discrimination and sorting of information provided plus the synthesis and creation of information implied. Most of us have to "unlearn" the mental processes we were taught in school, learn new ones, then "relearn" the old ones to bring logic and consistency to a system that can and does get way out of hand when left *solely* to the creativity of the practitioner.

Astrology as Math: The science of astrology is very straightforward. The heavenly bodies do move in predictable orbits, contact each other at predictable times, and align with natal planets on cue. Whether we look forward or back, the numbers are precise and inevitable. Interpretation has nothing to do with the correctness of erecting a chart, reading a map of the sky,

calculating the symbolic progressions, directions, and degrees. The symbols stroll hand in hand with their numbers.

Astrology as Symbol: Each symbol, be it a planet, aspect, degree, house, etc., has a definite core meaning. Keywords are not core meanings, they are data about the symbols, not the meanings of the symbols themselves. Granted, they often hit the core meaning, but the essence is usually buried in a mound of accurate and distracting fluff. *If astrology is to be transmitted and taught, we must make a distinction between essence and interpretation.* Astrological interpretation is transient, applicable only to the specific context. Essence is applicable in all situations at all times. Essence is the symbolic version of math.

Astrology as Data: The data of astrology is actually a compendium of individual experience. It is what the scientist would call raw data. It has no rhyme or reason, as presented, because it has never been systematically organized with distinctions made between essence and interpretation. The offering is rich only if you make the fine distinctions yourself. If you cannot, and/or have not been taught to, you will discover only mush.

Everyone who complains about inconsistency in astrology should read Alan Bloom's *The Closing of the American Mind*. Our education does not prepare us to make fine distinctions. The mind-set of the United States with Sun in Cancer and Moon in Aquarius, lacks the discriminating power of the Mutable Lights. In short, if we are not presented with ready-made formulas, we lack the ability to create them ourselves. We thrill to slogans. *Make Love not War*. What does that statement mean? Do we drop our pants when the enemy comes over the hill? Are love and war mutually exclusive? Apparently not, when we consider the human legacies of soldiers long dead. What every and anything really means are questions to be asked over and over until the persistent pattern or thought coughs up the truth. This is not a passive absorption of preconstructed data, but an act of agonizing will. You do not learn astrology from a book, but from a mind in sweat.

Astrology as History: While we all like to joke about predicting the past, history is the best way to study astrology as activity.

Here is where the scientific method is perfectly adaptable to the system. Ken Gillman's excellent study "Admissions to an Intensive Care Unit,"⁹ is exactly what we need more of: not to validate astrology so much as to understand it. Cycles exist. The planets go round and round. They may come back in different combinations, but we can, if we cultivate the ability to make fine distinctions, extract the common theme. In that way we know what will and must recur. A systematic study of the astrology of the past also gives us confidence to meet the ultimate challenge: the future.

Astrology as Prediction: Accumulated data is past history. No matter how much information we build up, it is always about something that already happened, conditions that currently exist, patterns that seem to make sense out of what we already know. The data of astrology is no different. Astrology attempts to take what science and centuries of observation have taught us and project it into an *explanation* of future events. Scientists are always searching for predictive models. Scientific prediction has produced equations that chart the courses of heavenly bodies for centuries, equations that systematize the creations of architectural wonders and machines, and do a fairly decent job of telling us the weather several days ahead.

In the human sphere, where people can be treated as carriers of what is common to all, body mechanisms and chemistry, the science of medicine does supremely well. It is totally hopeless to analyze and predict the anomaly, the isolated and individual experience. Statistics can tell you who will be elected president if the polls are taken close enough to the event. They cannot tell you how any single John Doe will vote. Astrology meets and delineates singular and unreplicable John and Jane Doe every day.

Astrology predicts what is predictable by its methods. Scientific models predict people *en masse* but not individuals, except where they share common elements. Astrology predicts both movements of groups and individuals, except where free will is a major factor. Astrology cannot build machines and

9. *Considerations*, volume VI, number 3, pp 43-63.

buildings. Science cannot cope with contradiction.

Proof: If astrology and science are built on different principles and address different concerns, no matter how much they have in common (and they do have much) the methods of one cannot prove the other. Most agree astrology will be better if it is made more scientific. How many of us see that science could be made better, particularly in its application to people, if it were made more astrological? Before you laugh, think hard.

There is general proof and there is individual proof. Any practicing astrologer who faces a total stranger and tells him things even his mother doesn't know, needs no scientific proof. Some will say, that our interpretations are so broad, or people know so little about themselves, that they believe anything we tell them. That may be true of some, but it is not true of most. I have, on occasion, argued with clients when they disagreed with my interpretation and caught them in casual remarks that proved my interpretation was correct. Now, this is not good politics and we do have to make a living, but it is the sometimes-scary reality that the practicing astrologer faces every day. How many scientists come face to face every day with instant feedback from the objects of their concern?

A correctly anticipated future is astrology's greatest proof. Predictions are the most difficult part of astrology. We can tell, in no uncertain terms, what people feel and when they feel it. We can tell what thoughts go through their heads. But, what will they do? Must they do it when the planet beckons? Can they overcome the urge? What will be done unto them, no matter what they try? Who will live? Who will die?

Prediction and free will are contradictory, but they are not mutually exclusive in the real world. The symbols of astrology tell us what is coming, when, how strong it will be, what we must do to resist or transform the event, and the odds of our coming out ahead. Individual choice gives a different form to the event. The energy and the aftermath are the same. To say that a correct prediction, using a model either scientific or astrological, is no proof of a system's validity is sheer nonsense. A light that dims at the flick of a switch proves the validity of science. A client who finds a job at the time predicted proves the validity of astrology. Note the absence of words like

system or theory. All systems and theories, science included, are stabs at the chaos of experience. All systems and theories are finally judged by what they accomplish for us in our attempts to master our conditions and ourselves. We judge the tree by the fruit.

Science has long sought a unified field theory. Each time it gets close it discovers something that blows it away. Astrology is already a unified field theory. Granted it does not explain the physics of the universe, but it defines a continuum between the material, observable world and human beings. It places the individual in a definable context and gives him a universal perspective on himself. Gauquelin's work¹⁰, compilations of Full Moon violence, and oysters' opening and closing their shells at mid-continental tides are the fingers of science reaching across the void of misunderstanding to touch the finger of astrology. Astrology needs scientific discipline to enhance its creativity. Science needs more than a little astrology to add motivation to its math, to add soul to its substance, and some right brain to its left.

Let's stop the battle. We are all in the same boat, rowing for the same dock. Astrology has nothing to be ashamed of except for the pusillanimous sniping and groveling of its scientizing factions. Let's pull together, proud of our own knowledge, respectful of what science can contribute to our art, and firm in our resistance to what it can destroy. Science plus Astrology equals a unified and unifying human view of a world composed of both static and stately data and dynamic rambunctious life.

#

10. Which, incidentally, proved little about professions and planets, but which, validated the time-worn astrological concept of angularity and *proved* that the active area of a cusp was before and after it, not simply in the House which it defined.

TOWARDS A BETTER ASTROLOGY ?

Andrew Patterson

THE PROBLEM

In a previous article¹, it was said that the study of astrology is difficult largely because of the way that it is presented in books, magazines, and lectures. Like other bodies of knowledge, astrology rests on a very large number of statements, and most of these are assertions about the meanings that the various parts of a horoscope are supposed to have. In that article it was suggested that the statements are a fertile breeding ground for confusion, and that there are four main reasons for this. One is that they are too similar, that is, the author or speaker does not distinguish well between components of a horoscope that are related, yet different. Another is that different authors give meanings to the same component that seem to bear no conceivable relationship to one another. A third group of statements is unsatisfactory because the author is apparently being evasive and circumlocutory, perhaps because of a misguided desire to be diplomatic. There is also a fourth category, comprising those statements which are either far too general or far too specific, both types being equally useless. We will come back to this group later.

In the same article, we also raised the question of whether astrological statements were even true, and we had to consider what the meaning of the word 'true' was in the astrological context anyway. It was remarked that much of astrology is speculative, or merely a reflection of the way the writer thought things *ought* to be. Some is derived from intuition, and some from psychic sources. And there is a great deal of astrological literature which is accepted as being correct mainly because it *could* be correct; that is, it is generally consistent with the accepted symbolism for the Planets, Houses, Signs, Aspects,

1. "Why is Astrology So Hard to Learn?" *Considerations*, Vol. VI, No. 3, 1991.

Midpoints, and other horoscopic apparatus. Most often, this type of literature is seen where an author is presenting some events in the life of an individual, a country, a business enterprise, etc., showing how everything is *explained* by the miracle of hindsight.

Now experience shows that not all astrological statements have the same quality, that is, they are not equally good at predicting the future, laying bare the psyche of a client, understanding economic trends, and so on. It very often happens that a client cannot relate to an assertion we make regarding a part of his/her chart, that he/she does not have the appearance indicated by the Ascendant, that predicted events do not come to pass, and the like. Because of this state of affairs, one cannot escape the impression that an effort is needed to construct a body of astrological knowledge that is somehow *better*. This corpus would comprise statements that have been selected, sifted, and sorted, and finally given a seal of approval.

An exercise of this kind would bring many benefits. It would force us to get into the habit of looking much more carefully at what we are saying. It would establish an astrology which is much more precise and much less hit-and-miss. It would permit a much better distinction between astrologers who have been properly trained and people who have merely cobbled together a plausible-sounding patter. We would be better able to recognize at once those parts of astrological lore that can be condemned at once as rubbish. We should be able to assemble a catalog of those most insidious of assertions, Universally Valid Statements, so as to be able to shun them. Most important of all, we would have the opportunity of putting together a set of statements that are objectively testable, in the same way as research psychologists do when they construct a questionnaire and validate the various items in it for their ability to predict the traits or factors they are supposed to relate to.

THE RAW MATERIAL

To begin as any good scientist would, let's take a mass of material that astrological statements consist of, and attempt some sort of classification. For simplicity, we confine ourselves to natal astrology, leaving aside horary and mundane astrology,

elections, decumbiture charts, and so on. After having made an extensive study of the literature over a period of years, we find that the astrological statements encountered invariably fall into one of the following categories:

Your Destiny. Examples are 'you will be denied children'; 'you will marry a rich man and live happily ever after.' In other words, this is **Your Fate In The Stars.**

Your Physical Appearance. This category concerns whether you are tall or short, the color of your hair, the set of your facial features, and so on. Examples are: 'Capricorn rising is short, dark of complexion, with vertical creases in the cheeks'; 'people with red hair have Aries rising or Mars in the 1st.'

Your Talents and Handicaps. These include skills and abilities, and such factors as IQ. Example: 'With Mercury conjunct Uranus, you are able to think with lightening speed and are very intelligent.'

Your Personality. 'George is so *stubborn!*' 'Mary is witty and sociable.' 'Harry is morose.'

Your Character. Example: 'because you have Uranus in the XIth house, you are dishonest and amoral.' (Is it heavy-handed to point out that some of these examples should not be taken literally?)

Your Habitual Behavior. The phrase given speaks for itself. Examples would be: 'with Moon in the IXth, you are constantly traveling overseas'; 'Mars in Taurus is always working in the garden.'

Your Psychodynamics. That is, your Drives, Urges, Needs, Wants, and Desires. For instance, the Moon is your Need for Security, Mercury is your Desire to Communicate, Saturn your Need for Control, etc.

Your Subjective Perceptions. That is, the way Life appears to you, your perception of yourself and of other people. Examples

are the perception of Sun-square-Saturn that all the masculine figures in your life consider you worthless, and the belief of Moon-square-Pluto that your mother threatens you.

Your Experienced Feelings. Examples here are the disappointment of Moon-opposite-Neptune (say), the confidence of Jupiter, and the rage of a frustrated Mars.

Esoteric Things. 'Since your Moon is in a Water Sign, I can tell that you died of thirst in a previous life, and that is why today you are an alcoholic!' 'The Life Task of a Taurean is to seek detachment from worldly possessions.'

It does not take much study of this list to see that some of the items included represent brands of astrology that are not defensible on either rational or empirical grounds. These are Destiny, Physical Appearance, Your Talents and Handicaps, and Esoteric Things. Others on the other hand have been found by experience to perform well, and are therefore retained. These are Subjective Perception, Habitual Behavior, and Experienced Feelings. Personality and Character are a gray area; one cannot deny that people possess the individual ingredients that go to make them up, but how these are related to the horoscope is not at all clear. Psychodynamics and Personality Components seem to be not so much modes of interpretation as handy ways of thinking about the planets so as to make Subjective Perceptions, Habitual Behavior, and Experienced Feelings a little clearer. But let us discuss this separation of the wheat from the chaff in more detail.

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

Whereas the others of the same group are faulty in practice, statements of the kind we have called **Esoteric Things** are faulty in principle. This is because there is no *rational* way of testing the truth of a statement about past lives or the occult significance of the present one. The esoteric astrologer is able to make any statement he/she likes, and no-one can contradict him/her. Unfortunately, there are very many people desperately seeking meaning to their lives, so the temptation is great to

compromise one's astrological integrity and tell them what they want to hear. But as reputable astrologers we can have nothing to do with this.

What is wrong with a statement of the **Destiny** type? Several things. One is that although the literature contains masses of assertions regarding how our lives will pan out, it would be difficult to test their truth. Presumably, we should have to wait until the subject has reached the end of his/her life; probably, we should then find only that in general terms the life has been symbolically consistent with the contents of the birth chart. Also, it is not mere quibbling to ask what is meant by adjectives like 'rich' or 'poor.' How rich is rich, and how poor is poor? A mendicant Eastern monk, owning only saffron robe, sandals, begging bowl, and a packed second house, might consider himself well off. But the main argument against Destiny statements is that in practice they do not appear to work. A well-known example is Saturn in the IInd house: 'you will always have to work hard for a living and will always be poor.' But we all know people with Saturn in the second; some are poor, some are rich, and some have a middling amount of money. And there are very many more examples of this kind; to see them, consult any astrological text that derives from the 19th Century.

Incidentally, **Medical** statements are a sub-class of Destiny statements. What is most remarkable about medical astrology is the extraordinary lack of agreement among its proponents. The association of the parts of the body with the Signs seems to be common cause, but beyond that anything goes.

Turning to **Physical Appearance**, we have another category of statements in which the facts do not fit the folklore. Although it is commonly accepted that red hair goes with Mars or Aries rising, that Capricorns are short, and so on, there is abundant literature showing that assertions like this are not supported by the evidence. In fact, when we attempt to relate Physical Appearance to what supposedly determines it, such as the Rising Sign, the Chart Ruler, planets aspecting the Ascendant, and so on, we are on very thin ice.

Regarding **Attributes**, let us take just one example: many authors agree that any tie-up between Mercury and Uranus in the chart makes for quick thinking and high intelligence. Very

well, but what is one to say about a person, known to the author, who has a tight conjunction of these two planets, but is mentally retarded? You can try to wriggle out of that one, but the most charitable view that we can take of this sort of statement is that it needs research.

With **Subjective Perceptions, Habitual Behavior, and Experienced Feelings** we are on much firmer footing; this is because it is relatively easy to check whether statements in these categories are true or not. It is not difficult for an outside observer to judge the correctness of an assertion about the habitual activities of an individual, and often the individual will be aware of them himself, particularly if they are destructive and stressful. In this respect Subjective Perceptions and Experienced Feelings are even better, as we are aware of our perceptions, and supremely aware of our feelings. This is another argument against Personality and Character; we really do not "see ourself's as others see us" and the most brilliant pronouncements under these headings are disappointing if the client cannot relate to them. But with Subjective Perceptions, Habitual Behavior, and Experienced Feelings, you are much more likely to be pronounced correct, leaving both you and the client feeling very satisfied.

Personality and Character bring their own special problems. For one thing, if I say 'George is stubborn,' where am I to find that in the chart? From the sole fact that the Sun is in Taurus? Certainly not. That there are a lot of planets in Fixed Signs? Perhaps. So the first problem is that there is no clear unambiguous tie-up between horoscope components on the one hand and personality factors like stubbornness on the other. To be sure, there are *some* overlaps such as the scale of introversion/extroversion with positive and negative Signs, but the effect seems small. Again, how stubborn is stubborn? Assuming we can identify them, how many stubbornness factors do there have to be in a chart to make a person slightly stubborn, moderately stubborn, very stubborn, and super-, mega- or hyper-stubborn? Then, with Personality and Character, there is a real danger of falling into the Universally Valid Statement trap. This is because (continuing with the theme of stubbornness), everyone is stubborn sometime, and stubborn about something. George will probably remember someone saying to

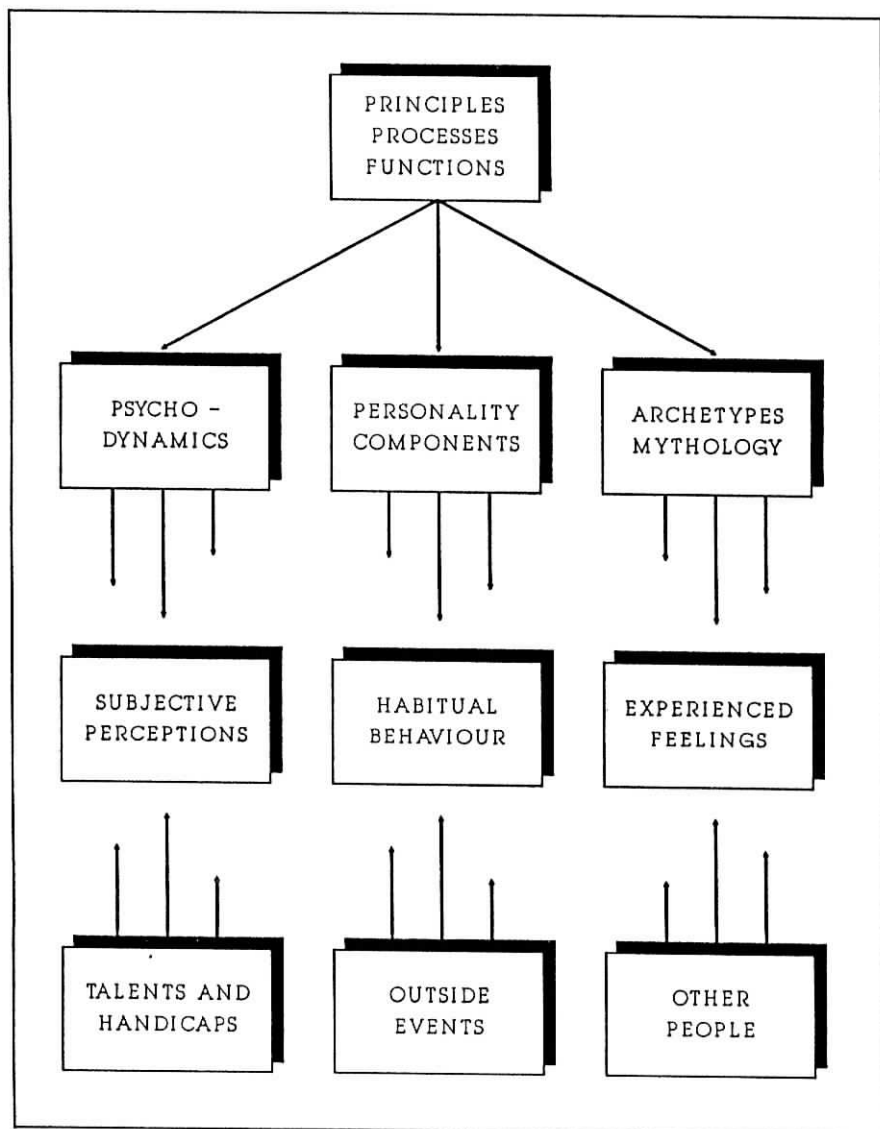
him at one time or another "George, you're so *stubborn!*", so he leaves the astrologer's lair with the feeling that he has been exposed to a character analysis that is at once insightful, incisive, penetrating, and precise.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

We said earlier that **Psychodynamics** and **Personality Components** are not so much types of statement as ways of thinking that lie behind Subjective Perceptions, Habitual Behavior, and Experienced Feelings. But it is possible to broaden this picture considerably by contemplating the ways in which all of the categories of statement we have been discussing are related. For a start, it seems clear that behind Psychodynamics and Personality Components lies a more general set of principles, located perhaps in Sheldrake's morphogenetic field or the collective unconscious. These Functions or Processes apparently ramify along three routes, that is they give rise in the first place to Psychodynamics, Personality Components in the second, and thirdly to a group of entities we have not yet brought up in this essay. These are archetypes and the character of myth, the 'traveling theater company' which the planets seem at times to portray. Formerly the province solely of Jungian psychiatrists, they have become invisible presences at astrological meetings, and the names Persephone and Prometheus are on everyone's lips.

There are three other factors that appear to influence our Subjective Perception of life, our Habitual Behavior and our Experienced Feelings, and these are our Talents and Handicaps (such as intelligence, good looks, and skills), the Events of our lives (such as health, wealth, illness, disasters, and setbacks), and the motivations, behavior, responses, and attributes of Other People. For the purposes of this discussion, we assume that these factors are genuinely independent of planetary effects, which of course may not ultimately be true. However, it does appear that the various factors we have been discussing are tied up in the way shown in the diagram on the next page.

It may clarify matters to give an example; let's take Mars. Most generally, Mars seems to represent a Process by means of which we separate or distinguish ourselves from each other.



Compare Venus, which is a Principle in terms of which we seek Association with one another. The Sun represents something like Achievement, the Moon Preservation, Neptune Transcendence, and so on. Hence, Mars could be called Distinction. The Psychodynamic of Mars seems to be the drive or urge to get what you want, or do what you want to do, or have your own way. The Personality Component is your self-assertiveness, say, and the mythological characters are of course Ares and Mars, or their equivalents in other cultures. Your Habitual Behavior is being aggressive, being assertive, being competitive, and being energetic. Your Subjective Perception may be that everyone else is ahead of you in some area, and your Experienced feelings include desire, anger, triumph, and rage.

THE GENERAL AND THE PARTICULAR

Let's go back to the fourth category of confusing statements mentioned at the beginning, namely, those which are either too general or too specific. This will enable us to discover yet another way in which astrological statements can be classified. The example selected in the article preceding this one was that of Mars in Libra, and two delineations of this formation were given: '...the trait of self-assertion or self-distinction expresses itself in lack of commitment or generalized appeasement'; '...the subject has a passion for sword dancing.' The point made was that each of these statements represents an extreme, neither of which is especially useful. Perhaps a better interpretation lies somewhere between the two, and to explore the possibility that there does, let's consider the case of, say, Mars in the first house, as Houses are always less woolly than Signs.

Amongst other things, the first house seems to stand for your body, your appearance, and the image you project to others, particularly strangers in general. Now the Habitual Behavior of Mars involves:

- | | |
|----------|----------------------|
| Group A. | * Being aggressive. |
| | * Being assertive. |
| | * Being competitive. |
| | * Being energetic. |

Combining these with what the House represents, we might get:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Group B. | * Taking part in vigorous sports such as athletics, gymnastics, etc.
* Presenting an image of being energetic and self-starting. |
|----------|---|

And to be very specific, it is possible on occasion that our subject with Mars in the 1st House:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Group C. | * Argues with the coach.
* Assaults other players.
* Attacks the referee/umpire. |
|----------|--|

Looking at these three groups of statements, there is no doubt that Group A is too general. Similarly Group C, although possibly quite true of some subjects, is too specific. But Group B is just right. Incidentally, we are of course talking about habitual Behavior; Subjective Perceptions and Experienced Feelings do not seem to vary so much.

THE RULES

With these preliminaries, we have now reached the stage where we can put down a set of criteria that will enable us to both recognize and formulate astrological statements of quality. The first two rules flow from what we have been discussing.

Rule 1. Statements must describe Subjective Perceptions, Habitual Behavior or Experienced Feelings.

(Since it is these that are testable by common-sense means, are reliable predictors, and to which clients can relate.)

Rule 2. Statements must be at the right level of generality, such generality, such as Group B above. They must neither be so general as to convey no information, or so specific as to be rare manifestations of the central idea.

Rule 3. Statements must be sufficiently concrete to be testable (for instance) by the experimental methods used by psychologists.

(That is, statements should not be of an allegorical or poetic nature, such as '...Moon-Pluto's emotional life (is like that of) a bird who dives headlong into water for its food and then comes up to digest what it has caught...')

Rule 4. Statements must be falsifiable, that is, they must be true when the chart component they relate to is present, and absent when the component is absent.

(What this rule is saying is that when Mars is in the first house, the Group B statements above are true, and are *not* true when Mars is not in the first house. However, we must treat this restriction with caution, as it frequently happens that the same activity or experience can stem from entirely different motivations, in the same way that the same motivation can manifest in many different activities or experiences.)

Rule 5. Statements should be true quite irrespective of anything else in the chart.

(There is a practice often encountered in which an astrologer, finding a Saturn-Jupiter conjunction in the chart, for example, will assert that each planet cancels out the effects of the other. This is often extended to view whole groups of configurations as canceling out others. Rule 5 assumes that it is possible to word statements in such a way as to avoid this sort of thing, and specifies that they should be so worded.)

Rule 6. Statements must *not* be universally valid.

(No further elaboration is required.)

These rules are not the whole story. It is good style, for instance, to word Psychodynamics and Personality Components so that the same phrases apply whether the planet concerned is in a House, in a Sign, or in an Aspect. Good interpretation too

has a number of other demands. For instance, hedging your bets in delineation is a widespread practice, so that we constantly hear '...a tendency towards....,' '...a likelihood that....' But these should not be a problem to us, as they are invariably attached to predictions of Destiny, Personality, or Character, so that they are automatically excluded from our present scheme. There are others: often one reads that Saturn in Aries causes the Aries characteristics of a person to be inhibited or restricted. But this surely is putting the cart before the horse; it is the Aries that modifies the Saturn, not the other way round.

Every now and then, all too infrequently, one comes across a delineation of an astrological configuration that is so clear, so direct and so obviously true that it is a delight. An outstanding example is how Rosenbluhm² describes the Saturn-Venus square. "This is an aspect of inhibition and self-doubt," he says, "about the ability to relate to others and express love needs. It shows up in one or more of the following ways: the native remains basically shy and isolated in love relationships, holds on desperately to minimally satisfying relationships, overcompensates for the self-doubt with excessive sexual openness; and is hypercritical of others as a projection of his own self-criticism." Notice, for the record, that the opening statement combines a Subjective Perception (inhibition and self-doubt) with a Personality Component (ability to give and receive love and affection), but this is a comment rather than a criticism. My own view is that a better astrology would consist of a comprehensive compilation of descriptions of this kind, and it is in this direction that the group I have the privilege to be associated with is striving. Nevertheless, I admit that other criteria are possible, and that is why the title of this essay ends with a question mark.

#

2. *The Astrologer's Guide to Counseling*

IDENTIFYING ELECTION WINNERS

Ken Gillman

An astrological model has been generated that clearly identifies the winner of every one of the presidential elections held in the United States from 1792, when George Washington stood for re-election, to the present (*written October 1991*).

The model calculates the probability, expressed in percentage terms, that the incumbent party will be re-elected. A score of 100 indicates there is a 100% likelihood the party in power will be re-elected; a score of 20 suggests only a 20% chance.

The following frequency distribution relates the probability scores calculated for the fifty U.S. presidential elections to whether or not the party previously in power was re-elected.

Table 1: U.S. ELECTION RESULTS BY MODEL SCORES

Pct. Probability of Re-election	# of Elections	# of Wins	# of Losses
100% & over	10	10	
90 - 99%	12	12	
80 - 89%	7	7	
70 - 79%	1	1	
60 - 69%	.		
50 - 59%	.		
40 - 49%	.		
30 - 39%	.		
20 - 29%	4		4
10 - 19%	2		2
0 - 9%	6		6
under 0%	8		8
TOTAL	50	30	20

"Win" = successful re-election, "Loss" = loss of office.

For each election a chart was calculated at sunrise on election day at the seat of the government¹. It is the "aspects" in these sunrise charts that are used in this model.

By "aspect," the angular difference in longitude between a particular pair of bodies is meant. This is expressed over 360°. In several instances the meaningful angular difference differs from text-book definitions of specific aspects.

Aspects formed between eleven different pairs of planets have been combined to generate this model. These eleven planetary pairs, which involve eight bodies, are as follows:

Mercury to Moon
Venus to Moon
Jupiter to Moon
Saturn to Moon
Pluto to Mercury
Jupiter to Venus
Saturn to Venus
Saturn to Jupiter
Uranus to Jupiter
Node² to Jupiter
Pluto to Uranus

Neither houses nor signs are included in the model. The presidential elections occur every four years, nowadays on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. Prior to 1845, they were held on the first Wednesday of December. Because the Sun's degree in Scorpio (for the thirty-six elections from 1844 to 1988) or in Sagittarius (for the earlier fourteen elections) at sunrise on election day is fairly constant, any planet's house and sign position is defined by its aspect to the Sun and, to a very large extent, by the aspects it forms to Mercury or Venus.

The model is not necessarily a predictive model. It may or may not be capable of forecasting if power will be retained in

1. New York in 1792, Philadelphia in 1796 and 1800, Washington D.C. thereafter.

2. The Moon's mean North Node is used.

future elections. What it does provide, however, is an astrological explanation of why each of fifty U.S. presidential elections went the way it did.

USING THE MODEL

To use the model calculate the horoscope at astrological sunrise on election day, as at 38N54 77W02 nowadays. Identify the difference in longitude (rounded to whole degrees) for each of the relevant planetary pairs, counting from the slower body to the faster, then sum the appropriate scores listed in Table 2. Note that Saturn-Venus and Uranus-Jupiter aspects each appear twice in Table 2, among both the positive and the negative sets of scores.

As an example we will calculate the score associated with astrological sunrise on November 3rd, 1992 at Washington D.C., 38N54 77W02. This chart is set for 6:41:30 EST. The longitude positions, expressed in whole degrees in terms of 360°, of the eight bodies used in the model are as follows: Moon 323, Mercury 245, Venus 258, Jupiter 185, Saturn 312, Uranus 285, Pluto 232, & Node 264.

Hence the fourteen different angular differences and the scores associated with each (from Table 2) are as follows:

1. Saturn to Moon	= 11,	score = 0
2. Pluto to Mercury	= 12,	score = +31
3. Jupiter to Venus	= 73,	score = +11
4. Saturn to Venus	= 306,	score = 0
5. Saturn to Jupiter	= 233,	score = +13
6. Uranus to Jupiter	= 260,	score = 0
7. Constant		score = +47
8. Mercury to Moon	= 78,	score = 0
9. Venus to Moon	= 65,	score = 0
10. Jupiter to Moon	= 138,	score = 0
11. Saturn to Venus	= 306,	score = 0
12. Uranus to Jupiter	= 260,	score = -10
13. Node to Jupiter	= 281,	score = 0
14. Pluto to Uranus	= 53,	score = 0
TOTAL SCORE		= 92

Table 2:

MODEL'S SCORING COMPONENTS

Planetary Pair	Difference in longitude	Score Value
1. Saturn to Moon	86-175	+12
	241-305	+12
2. Pluto to Mercury	0-124	+31
	165-195	+31
	236-360	+31
3. Jupiter to Venus	46-155	+11
	221-345	+11
4. Saturn to Venus	141-225	+ 8
5. Saturn to Jupiter	0-105	+13
	196-280	+13
6. Uranus to Jupiter	0-115	+ 9
7. Constant		+47
8. Mercury to Moon	186-240	-27
9. Venus to Moon	0-5	-28
	96-105	-28
	166-180	-28
	271-285	-28
	351-360	-28
10. Jupiter to Moon	0-40	-20
	71-90	-20
	181-190	-20
	266-280	-20
	351-360	-20
11. Saturn to Venus	0-25	-13
	76-100	-13
	261-275	-13
	336-360	-13
12. Uranus to Jupiter	251-360	-10
13. Node to Jupiter	106-210	-14
14. Pluto to Uranus	0-39	-13
	321-360	-13

Score of any unstated longitude differences = 0.

For each of the fifty U.S. elections, Tables 3 (a) and (b) list which positive and negative score components were present, the calculated probability score, and the election result. Tables 4 (a) and (b) list the political party and President elected in each of these elections, together with losing candidate.

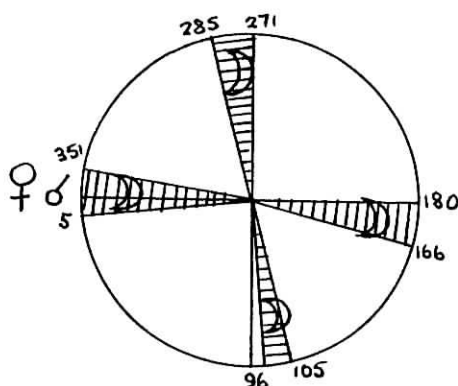
DISCUSSION

Aspects between Venus and the Moon

The angular differences between Venus and the Moon, illustrated below, represent an important planetary pairing. This pair were in conjunction, opposition or square during eleven of the fifty elections, and on none of these occasions was the party in the White House re-elected.

Venus - Moon	aspects		
	Win	Loss	%
Present	0	11	0
Absent	30	9	77
Total	30	20	60

The effectiveness of this aspect between Venus and the



fast-moving Moon may, at first sight, be unexpected. It is usually assumed in mundane astrology that it is the cycles of the slower bodies, Jupiter, Saturn and beyond, that are associated with a population's changing moods.

However, if the charts used here, which are set for sunrise on election day, are considered in horary terms as inception charts, or interpreted as an ingress, that is, as indicators of the potential outcome of events occurring during a specific period, in this case a day, the observed importance of the Moon makes complete sense.

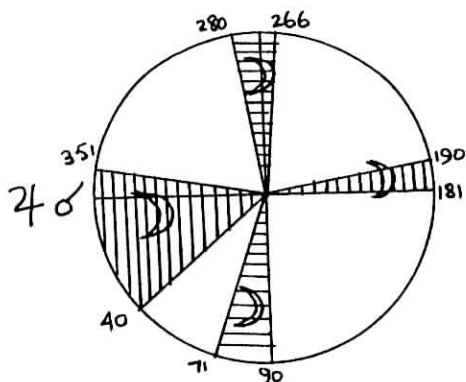
These Venus-Moon aspects can perhaps be interpreted as indicating an unhappy mood among the voters, who have become discontented with the party in power. These adverse aspects could also suggest the electorate is making a poor judgment, that they have been too easily swayed by promises. It is clearly an indicator of change for change's sake.

Aspects between Jupiter and the Moon

Again, the conjunction, opposition and the two squares, create a negative score factor.

Jupiter - Moon aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Present	2	10	17
Absent	28	10	74
Total	30	20	60

Adverse aspects between Jupiter and the Moon may indicate a President who is no longer popular. There may have been an obvious waste of resources, a recession perhaps, as a result of which people feel they lack certain material advantages. There is rebellion and opposition among the electorate, they want to improve

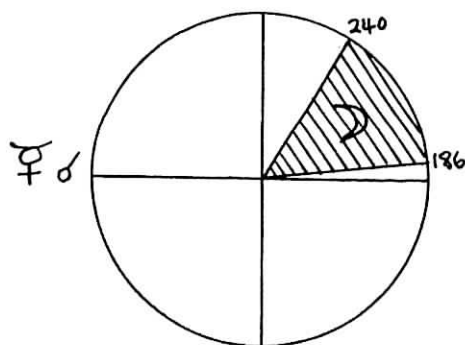


their way of life and believe the government has let them down. When these aspects are absent, the government is popular, and the President is seen as having a social conscience. The re-election of the President can then be viewed as a vote of confidence, a time for celebration.

Reference to Tables 3(a) and 3(b) shows that these Jupiter-Moon adverse aspects were present, for example, in 1844 when James Polk, who had aggressive-expansionist views on acquiring Texas, defeated Henry Clay; again in 1860, when Lincoln, who had declared that "the normal condition of all the territory of the United States is that of freedom," was elected; and in 1932, the first election following the 1929 Crash, when FDR's description of the incumbent President, Herbert Hoover, as a "reckless" and "extravagant" spender gave him a landslide victory over a dilatory opponent.

Aspects between Mercury and the Moon

Mercury - Moon aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Present	1	9	10
Absent	29	11	72
Total	30	20	60



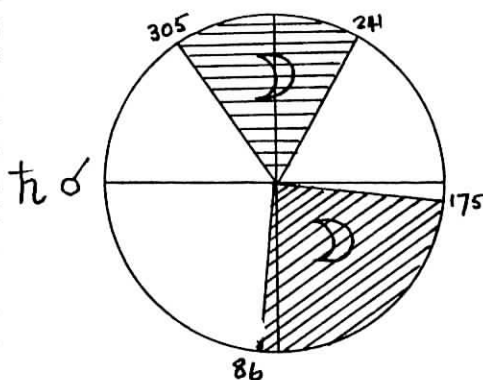
The aspects between Mercury and the Moon used in the model were illustrated on the previous page. The aspect is negative for re-election between the opposition and the Moon's returning trine to Mercury (186-240°).

The Moon's aspect to Mercury may relate to the influence of the press in determining the voter's choice. The aspect was present when the sitting government had previously made unpopular treaties.

Aspects between Saturn and the Moon

Two areas of positive Saturn-Moon aspects are used in the model, 86-175° and 241-305°. These roughly oppose each other.

The absence of this aspect seems to indicate an apparent lack. The populace is grumbling and moody, finding fault with the existing powers; the economy is depressed, and perhaps too much attention has been given to foreign affairs at the expense of internal matters. By contrast, when the aspect is present, nationalism is strong and morale high, the electorate is considerate of what it is the



Saturn - Moon aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Present	19	3	86
Absent	11	17	39
Total	30	20	60

party in power has done and is trying to do; there may at this time be a feeling, played on perhaps by the party in power, that the United States must stand alone against others. No compelling need for change is felt. There is a fair degree of contentment, a minimum of grumbling.

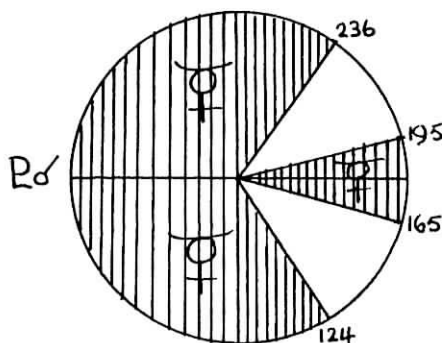
The aspect was present during twenty-two of the fifty elections, on only three of which, in 1888, 1892, and 1912, did the party in power fail to be re-elected

Aspects between Pluto and Mercury

The Pluto-Mercury aspect is positive when Mercury is within a trine of Pluto, either way, 0-124° and 236-360°, or when the pair are in opposition, 165-195°. Aspects between these two planets relate to how well the party in power can persuade the country that it is doing a good job. Mercury's aspect to Pluto represents the ability of the government to influence the public.

Pluto-Mercury		aspects	
	Win	Loss	%
Present	28	9	76
Absent	2	11	15
Total	30	20	60

There may be misrepresentation, indicated perhaps when the opposition is present, but the persuasion is nonetheless effective.



The aspect was absent during thirteen elections, and in only two of these was the party in power re-elected. Maybe we should discount one of these, the fraudulent election of 1876, when Hayes became

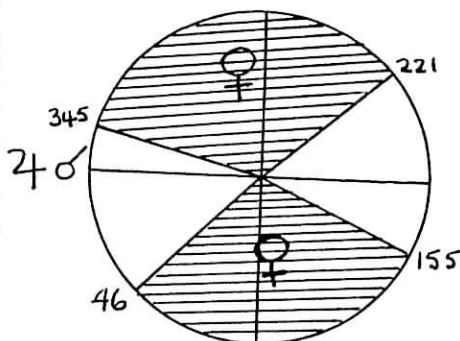
President although his opponent, Tilden, had initially gotten more Electoral College votes. This leaves just a single occasion in which the absence of the Pluto-Mercury aspect resulted in the re-election of the incumbent, the irrepressible Theodore Roosevelt in 1904. Three years earlier, following the assassination of President McKinley, Teddy had become the youngest President in American history. He was immensely popular. Although his nomination for re-election was strongly opposed by the conservatives of his own Republican Party, he was assured of re-election when the Democratic Party nominated as their candidate a little-known judge from Roosevelt's own state of New York, Alton B. Parker.

Aspects between Jupiter and Venus

These Jupiter-Venus aspects represent a third leg of the Venus-Moon and Jupiter-Moon aspects, discussed earlier. The angular difference is positive when Venus is 46-155° or 221-345° from Jupiter, two areas that clearly relate one to the other.

Jupiter - Venus aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Present	25	6	81
Absent	5	14	26
Total	30	20	60

The aspect clearly indicates popularity, the apparent willingness of the party in power to do what is necessary to win and keep the public's affections. The complementary aspects, the conjunction (346-45°) and the wide opposition (156-220°) may be associated with a sitting

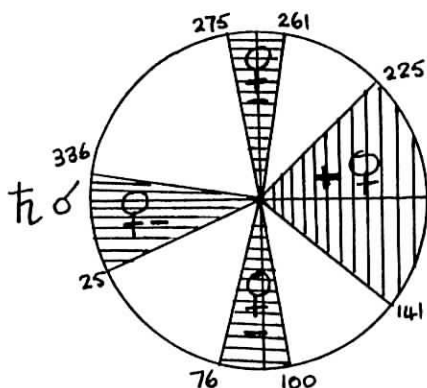


President who has neglected or been too lazy, perhaps overly self-conceited, to pay attention to those to whom he is ultimately responsible. Obvious dissipation, wastefulness or excessive rich living can then turn the voters against the incumbent.

Aspects between Saturn and Venus

A three-way split: the conjunction (336-25°) and the two squares (76-100° and 261-275°) are negative for the existing powers; the wide opposition (141-225°) is helpful for re-election; and the remaining angular differences can be considered as neutral.

These aspects suggest the incumbent will be re-elected



when he appears to demonstrate a sense of duty, thrift and economy, those acts which invariably father loyalty and faithfulness among the voters. He will lose office if he appears to have been irresponsible or unfaithful to

those who elected him. These three segments can be related to the economic cycle.

Saturn - Venus aspects	%		
	Win	Loss	Win
Positive	19	7	73
Negative	3	8	27
Neutral	8	5	62

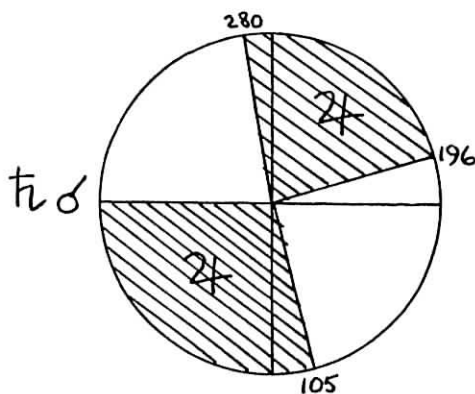
Three re-election bids were successful despite the aspect being negative. These occurred in 1804, 1836, and 1900. In the first and third of these a sitting President was re-elected to a

second term, Thomas Jefferson in 1804, William McKinley in 1900. The other win, that of 1836, occurred when Martin Van Buren was elected to replace the retiring Andrew Jackson, a severe economic depression beginning two months after his inauguration.

Aspects between Saturn and Jupiter

Aspects between these two bodies have always been considered of the greatest importance in shaping the course of history. In the model, the factor is positive for re-election when Jupiter and Saturn are separated by $196-280^{\circ}$ or when Jupiter is moving away from the conjunction ($0-105^{\circ}$).

The presence of this aspect would seem to indicate a President who has demonstrated that he is industrious, and has a sense of duty, and who comes across as being straightforward and honest. He has been able to realize his stated objectives, and he can be associated in the public's eyes with an increase in the wealth of the country. The absence of this aspect suggests the voters are annoyed, angry with their President and his party, who they believe have failed to husband and increase the country's resources. The people have been experiencing an unsettled life with many changes, and wish now to put a stop to this irresponsible leadership. Much of this is related to the



Saturn - Jupiter aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Present	20	4	83
Absent	10	16	38
Total	30	20	60

economic cycle of expansion and recession.

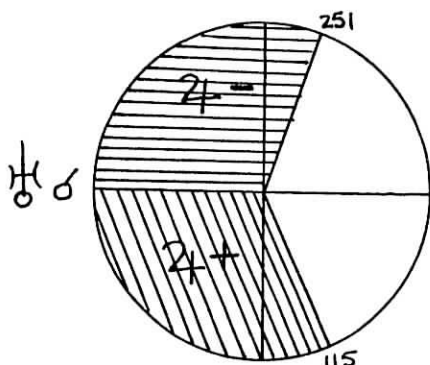
The conjunction between these two bodies has been associated with the President's death in office. When the conjunction is approaching, aspect 281-359°, the aspect is negative in the model, immediately thereafter the aspect becomes positive.

Aspects between Uranus and Jupiter

Uranus and Jupiter are associated with the only negative score value that appears for the 1992 election. This is a medium-term aspect, the period between successive conjunctions being fourteen years. It is used in the model as a three-way division of the circle. When Jupiter is within a returning trine (251-360°) from Uranus, as it will be in November 1992, the public is restless and frustrated. They have become tired of stagnation, of being stuck at dead center. They've had enough of a drifting economy and unresponsive government. They want newness, something that will excite them and relieve the tedium. They want to experience fresh horizons. By contrast, when Jupiter is separating from its conjunction with Uranus, within a trine (0-115°), the voters seem willing to stay with the party in power, not necessarily because they consider it the best but from stubbornness or inertia. The third position, the opposing trine (116-250°) is neutral.

This is another aspect that is clearly related to the recessions and expansions of the economic cycle.

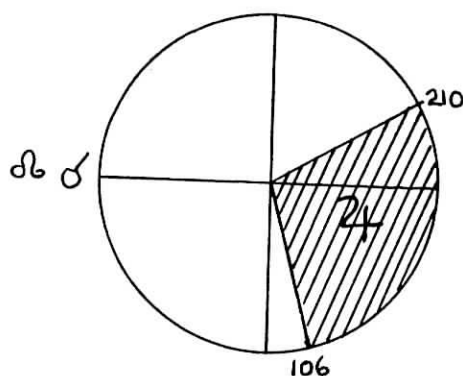
Examination of Tables 3(a) and (b) shows that Jupiter-Uranus tends to relate to Presidents with strong visions, who get re-elected to a second term; it was negative when they are initially elected, and has become positive for their second term. Ronald Reagan is a good example.



Uranus - Jupiter aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Positive	14	2	88
Negative	5	11	31
Neutral	11	7	61

Aspects between the Moon's North Node and Jupiter

When Jupiter is closer to the Moon's South Node than it is to the North Node (aspect = 106-210°) there are signs of a lack



of harmony in the country. People are looking out for their own gain first in any dealing with others. In such times, re-electing the current President is unlikely to appear advantageous to the business community. And in general, people suspect

their welfare is being ignored.

Node - Jupiter aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Present	3	10	23
Absent	27	10	73
Total	30	20	60

There were three successful re-elections with this aspect present. In 1808 and 1816 James Madison and James Monroe

were, respectively, elected to their first terms. In 1924 Calvin Coolidge, who had assumed office the previous year on Harding's death, was elected President in his own right. It is most unlikely that, after the Teapot Dome and other scandals, Harding would himself have been re-elected.

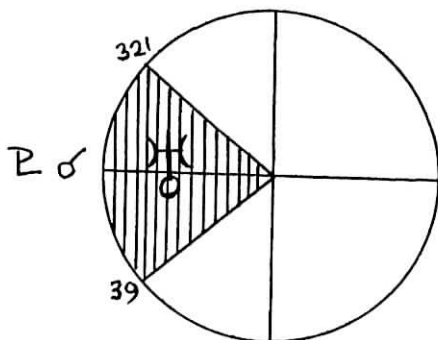
Aspects between Pluto and Uranus

This is a long-term indicator, with a 127-year cycle between successive conjunctions, that is negative when Uranus is within 40° of its conjunction with Pluto.

Pluto - Uranus aspects			
	Win	Loss	%
Present	4	10	29
Absent	26	10	72
Total	30	20	60

The conjunction of these two slow-moving bodies is the planetary combination that stimulates the process of transformation, the collapse of the old order of things, the necessary and desired building of the new upon the ruins of the old. Uranus conjunct Pluto indicates a need for revolution or transformation, mental if not physical. The desire to strive for the new is in the wind, but there can also be a scattering of energies,

impatience, and many acts of violence. The conjunction has occurred just twice during the period covered by these fifty elections, the last in the mid-1960s at which time it remained within its 40° orb from 1952 to 1980.



This period and the earlier one of 1840-1860, were times when the sitting party was generally unable to identify, least of all to satisfy, the changing needs of the country. The frequent turn over of ruling parties in these two periods, in one election and out the next, clearly shows the inability of this nation's brightest and best to respond quickly enough to the transformations Uranus and Pluto demanded.

The Sun, Mars and Neptune

The absence of the Sun from this scoring model may seem strange. It is by tradition the astrological indicator of the nation's supreme authority, the President. However, do not pay too much attention to this absence, or to the absence of Mars and Neptune. The Sun and both of the other absentees *are* involved in significant aspect relationships, their absence from the model is simply because other planetary aspects combine better to discriminate the wins from the losses. Indeed, the Sun's aspectual relationship with the Moon has one of the largest correlations with these election results. After Moon-Venus it is the next most important, *taken by itself*, and did enter very early as the model was built up stage by stage. However, the Moon-Sun aspect became superfluous when the Venus-Node aspect entered the model several stages later; because of how Venus-Node was able to interrelate with the other predictor characteristics, not because Venus-Node explains everything the Moon-Sun aspect does. In its turn, Venus-Node was later dropped following the entry of the Jupiter-Uranus aspect. It is the overall relationship of the full group of planetary aspects that enables this model to do what it does. In combination, they form a necessary web of interconnecting aspects, with sufficient present at each election, to isolate and identify the result of each re-election bid. To drop one aspect or to introduce another, no matter how strong the newcomer's association with election results, will radically alter the model's effectiveness, even destroy it completely.

Esther Arundell's "Mars Effect"

The inspiration for this analysis came from Esther Arundell's "Mars Effect"³, a finding that has triggered speculation among British astrologers about when the current Prime Minister, John Major, should call the next election. Esther found that, with just a single exception since the World War II, the British government has been re-elected if Mars is conjunct the Sun or conjunct the Ascendant, or both, at the opening of the poll on election day. A 5° orb was used. In cases of government defeat, Mars was in neither of these positions.

The present analysis shows that the Mars effect does not apply in U.S. presidential elections. The parties in power are either re-elected or defeated with very much the same frequency, whether the Mars aspects are present or not. Both the Sun and Mars are involved in significant aspects in these sunrise election charts, but not with each other.

However, the approach Esther took was quite novel. She ignored the candidates involved and pursued the idea of whether or not the incumbent government would retain or lose power. This approach has been followed here.

* * *

I recently read some gossip about Sir Winston Churchill, the British war-time Prime Minister, to whom power was like an elixir. He liked to quote from Maeterlink's *Life of the Bee*, on the way one tiny grub, when fed with the magical royal jelly in the hive, became transformed into a queen. It was the same, he said, with power, which was another sort of royal jelly. He told the story to account for the success of Prime Minister Clement Atlee, an opponent Churchill had scorned yet who nonetheless trounced him in 1945.

I have found it very educational to evaluate the results of particular battles for political power in these elections in terms of these planetary aspects. The model fulfills this intent.

3. Published in the January/February 1990 edition of *The Astrological Journal*, the bi-monthly of England's Astrological Association.

Methodology Notes

In deciding which aspects could be considered candidates for this model, two criteria were set up before the analysis and adhered to: the minimum number of observations in any split of the longitudinal elongation between two bodies should cover at least 20% of the elections, and the difference between the observed number of "wins" and the expected number should be clearly significant, $P < 0.05$.

Discrimination between Wins and Losses is complete with less characteristics than are used here; the present solution was chosen to maximize differences.

The following basic statistics are provided for the curious:

Aspect Pair	Univariate		Model
	<i>R</i>	χ^2	<i>F</i>
ME-LU	-.51	13.0	27.9
VE-LU	-.65	21.2	25.8
JP-LU	-.58	12.4	14.7
SA-LU	.48	11.4	6.5
PL-ME	.54	14.6	38.9
JP-VE	.54	14.5	5.0
SA-VE	.44	9.7	14.6
SA-JP	.46	10.4	9.1
UR-JP	.46	10.6	12.1
NN-JP	.45	10.0	9.4
PL-UR	.40	8.0	7.7

$$\text{Model } R^2 = 0.943, F(\nu 11) = 57.33$$

A second model, different from that described here, has been generated for Canada. This will be described at a later time. It correctly identifies the result of each of the thirty-two elections in which a defending Canadian government has attempted to retain its power.

###

Table 3(a):

THE 50 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**PRESENCE OF THE VARIOUS
ASTROLOGICAL INDICATORS****1792 - 1892**

DATE	ME LU	VE LU	JP LU	SA LU	PL ME	JP VE	SA VE	SA JP	UR JP	NN JP	PL UR	WIN	SCORE
1792	-			+	+	+		+	+			W	94
1796			-	+	+	+		+				W	93
1800	-	-			+				-	-		L	-2
1804				+	+	+	-	+	+			W	109
1808				+	+	+		+		-		W	98
1812					+	+		+	-			W	91
1816				+	+	+		+	-	-		W	88
1820			-	+	+	+	+		+			W	97
1824					+	+	+	+				W	110
1828		-				+	-		-			L	7
1832					+	+			+			W	97
1836					+	+	-	+				W	88
1840								-	-		-	L	11
1844			-		+		-	+	-	-	-	L	20
1848		-				+	-				-	L	4
1852	-	-				+				-	-	L	-25
1856					+	+	+	+	-		-	W	87
1860			-				-		+	-	-	L	-5
1864				+	+			+				W	102
1868	-		-		+				-			L	20
1872					+	+		+	+			W	110
1876				+		+	+	+	+			W	99
1880					+	+	+					W	97
1884	-		-				-	+	-			L	-10
1888		-	-	+					+	-		L	4
1892	-	-	-	+	+		-					L	1

"score" is % probability of re-election

Table 4(a):

THE 50 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**ELECTED PARTY AND PRESIDENT
ASTROLOGICAL INDICATORS****1792 - 1892**

Date of Election	Winning Party	Elected President	Losing Candidate
5 Dec 1792	Federalist	Washington	Adams
7 Dec 1796	Federalist	Adams	Jefferson
3 Dec 1800	Dem-Rep	Jefferson	Adams
5 Dec 1804	Dem-Rep	Jefferson	Pinckney
7 Dec 1808	Dem-Rep	Madison	Pinckney
2 Dec 1812	Dem-Rep	Madison	Clinton
4 Dec 1816	Dem-Rep	Monroe	King
6 Dec 1820	Dem-Rep	Monroe	J.Q. Adams
1 Dec 1824	Dem-Rep	J.Q. Adams	Jackson
3 Dec 1828	Democrat	Jackson	J.Q. Adams
5 Dec 1832	Democrat	Jackson	Clay
7 Dec 1836	Democrat	Van Buren	W. Harrison
2 Dec 1840	Whig	W. Harrison	Van Buren
4 Dec 1844	Democrat	Polk	Clay
7 Nov 1848	Whig	Taylor	Cass
2 Nov 1852	Democrat	Pierce	Scott
4 Nov 1856	Democrat	Buchanan	Fremont
6 Nov 1860	Republican	Lincoln	Douglas
8 Nov 1864	Republican	Lincoln	McClellan
3 Nov 1868	Republican	Grant	Seymour
5 Nov 1872	Republican	Grant	Greeley
7 Nov 1876	Republican	Hayes	Tilden
2 Nov 1880	Republican	Garfield	Hancock
4 Nov 1884	Democrat	Cleveland	Blaine
6 Nov 1888	Republican	B. Harrison	Cleveland
8 Nov 1892	Democrat	Cleveland	B. Harrison

Table 3(b):

THE 50 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

**PRESENCE OF THE VARIOUS
ASTROLOGICAL INDICATORS**

1896 - 1992

DATE	ME LU	VE LU	JP LU	SA LU	PL ME	JP VE	SA VE	SA JP	UR JP	NN JP	PL UR	WIN	SCORE
1896			-			+	-		-	-		L	8
1900				+	+	+	-		+			W	96
1904				+		+		+	+			W	91
1908					+		+					W	86
1912		-	-	+			+		-			L	9
1916				+	+			+	+			W	110
1920	-					+	-					L	18
1924				+	+	+		+	-	-		W	88
1928				+	+	+	-		+			W	96
1932		-	-					+		-		L	-3
1936				+	+		-	+				W	89
1940				+	+	+	+		-			W	99
1944					+	+	+	+	+			W	118
1948					+	+						W	89
1952	-	-	-		+			+	-		-	L	-9
1956					+				+		-	W	73
1960	-		-		+		-			-	-	L	-10
1964				+	+	+	+	+			-	W	108
1968	-				+	+			-	-	-	L	24
1972				+	+	+		+	+		-	W	108
1976		-			+					-	-	L	22
1980		-	-		+		-		-		-	L	-7
1984				+	+	+		+	+			W	121
1988				+	+	+						W	100
1992					+	+		+	-			?	92

"score" is % probability of re-election

Table 4(b):

THE 50 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**ELECTED PARTY AND PRESIDENT
ASTROLOGICAL INDICATORS****1896 - 1988**

Date of Election	Winning Party	Elected President	Losing Candidate
3 Nov 1896	Republican	McKinley	Bryan
6 Nov 1900	Republican	McKinley	Bryan
8 Nov 1904	Republican	T. Roosevelt	Parker
3 Nov 1908	Republican	Taft	Bryan
5 Nov 1912	Democrat	Wilson	Taft
7 Nov 1916	Democrat	Wilson	Hughes
2 Nov 1920	Republican	Harding	Cox
4 Nov 1924	Republican	Coolidge	Davies
6 Nov 1928	Republican	Hoover	Smith
8 Nov 1932	Democrat	F. Roosevelt	Hoover
3 Nov 1936	Democrat	F. Roosevelt	Landon
5 Nov 1940	Democrat	F. Roosevelt	Wilkie
7 Nov 1944	Democrat	F. Roosevelt	Dewey
2 Nov 1948	Democrat	Truman	Dewey
4 Nov 1952	Republican	Eisenhower	Stevenson
6 Nov 1956	Republican	Eisenhower	Stevenson
8 Nov 1960	Democrat	Kennedy	Nixon
3 Nov 1964	Democrat	Johnson	Goldwater
6 Nov 1968	Republican	Nixon	Humphrey
7 Nov 1972	Republican	Nixon	McGovern
2 Nov 1976	Democrat	Carter	Ford
4 Nov 1980	Republican	Reagan	Carter
6 Nov 1984	Republican	Reagan	Mondale
8 Nov 1988	Republican	Bush	Dukakus

AQUARIAN MUSIC¹

Ken Negus

My different drummer,
so distant, heard only
with my different ear.

within,
he loudly pounds my march,
shared
by those few
who too resonate
with orbit-medleys

plucked and tapped and echoed
at the intersections
of the cosmic circles.

* * *

1. This poem is from Ken Negus' *Logos and Astron: Astrological and Esoteric Poems*, Vol. 3, soon to be published by Eucopia, 175 Harrison Street, Princeton, N.J. 08540.

SATURN AND DEPRESSION²

Donna Cunningham

Just as exaggerated or negative expressions of Saturn contribute to fear, they also play a part in the development of depression. This is true of people who chronically suffer from depression, as those with a strong Saturn in the natal chart tend to do, as well as those who are suffering from a one-time depression in reaction to some specific event or Saturn transit.

Perfectionism: The demand for perfection is a common attitude with Saturnian people, and for all of us in the areas of life Saturn touches. In her excellent volume, *The Book of Hope*, Dr. Helen DeRosis says depression-prone people alternate between the perfect self and the despicable self. Such people feel they must either be perfect in every respect all the time or they're despicable, awful, nothing. Somewhere along the line, the positive Saturn concern for quality becomes perverted into a tool for self-flagellation. To the helpful desire for excellence, the perfectionist has added the negative elements of compulsivity, rigidity, and intolerance. Those afflicted with depression could benefit from her book, which contains many helpful suggestions for breaking out of this syndrome.

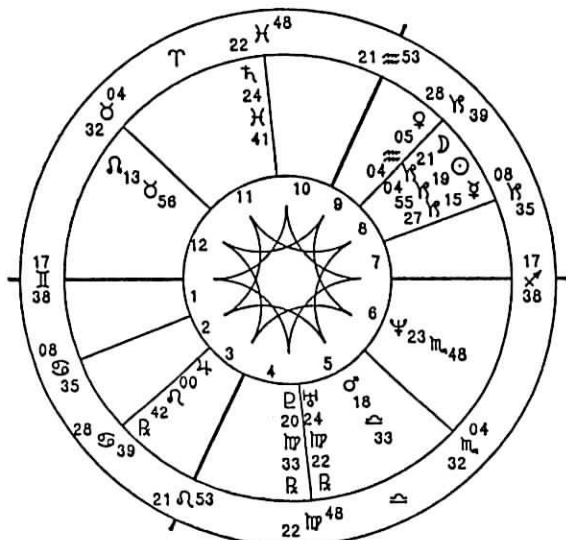
Anxiety: DeRosis views depression as an addiction, whose primary purpose is to deaden anxiety (another Saturn problem). Anxiety in turn comes from our perfectionistic standards, which are impossible to meet. Use the tools in the article on fear³ to help identify and transcend the fears and limitations you're depressed about.

2. Reprinted with permission from *Astrology and Vibrational Healing* by Donna Cunningham. Published by Cassandra Press, 1988.

3. See *Considerations* Volume VI number 3.

Ambitiousness: A Capricorn who is going nowhere is a miserable person. We are all ambitious in the areas where we have Saturn or Capricorn, and we get depressed when we aren't getting anywhere or when we suffer a setback to our hopes and plans. The excessively Saturnian person, however, bases self-worth on achievement, and thus readily turns to self-hate when a plan fails to materialize.

One double Capricorn youngster was afflicted with dyslexia, and was already seriously depressed by the age of eight. He had absorbed much from television about success and affluence and knew already that his inability to read, combined with his family's poverty and the area's lack of facilities for his handicap, meant severely limited prospects. His chart is reproduced here for those who wish to learn more about dyslexia and about depression. The conjunction of Sun, Moon, and Mercury in Capricorn in the eighth house coincided with his depression, which by adolescence had progressed to the depth of a death wish. The signature of the dyslexia appears to be the quincunx from Mercury to his Gemini Ascendant, which it rules, as well as squares to the Ascendant from Pluto and Chiron.



Depressed Dyslexic: 14:25 CST, 10th January 1967,
41N59 91W40. Placidus houses.

Depression Itself as a Healing Process: A homeopathic principle is that symptoms are a sign of health, of the body's attempts to mobilize its defenses and heal itself. Depression is the body's biochemical demand for time to rest and recover. Transcendental meditation has been recommended to stimulate the body's natural ability to recover by providing the rest the body needs to replace chemical resources depleted by anger, gear, and chronic stress.

Within this framework, depression can be seen as a healing process, a cycle, which consists of a natural reaction to loss. In such cases, it is referred to as reactive depression. If you allow yourself to mourn the loss and go through the process, you don't have to stay there for long periods of time. The book *The Secret Strength of Depression* by Frederic Flach, discusses in depth the way that allowing yourself to be sad after a loss can keep you from chronic depression.

The sadness is frequently a reaction to facing reality, especially the reality of your own limitations. It comes with those head-on collisions with the material plane we're subjected to from time to time with Saturn transits. Many things about reality ARE sad, and feeling that sadness is an important part of coming to terms with it. We get a little smarter through these confrontations--sadder but wiser.

SATURN AND THE LETDOWN PHENOMENON

Depression often comes from blocked goals or facing realistic limitations. Yet there's another kind which psychologists call the letdown phenomenon. You've been driving hard to make a goal, and when the big day is over, you go into a slump. This is a common reaction, whether the accomplishment is a college degree or a dinner party for all your friends. The letdown may last only a few days or may become as serious as the reaction many people experience after a major success, like writing a book. Very often, the higher the peak, the lower the slump. We're funny creatures, aren't we? We get depressed if we fail and also if we succeed! But what is the letdown after success related to? It corresponds to a number of the traits of Saturn.

Goals and Lack of Goals: When you're aiming for a goal, your

life has meaning. There is a direction, a purpose, a structure around which everything else is organized. Once you achieve it, there may be a sense of purposelessness. When you have a goal, that Saturnian drive at least has something to be channeled into. When the goal isn't there any more, you have nothing to work toward, nothing to push yourself for. It is as much of a loss as if someone you loved disappeared from your life.

Saturn and its sign Capricorn have to do with mountains, and when you finally get to the top of the mountain, everything else seems flat. When Elvis Presley, who was a Capricorn, died, one radio announcer said, "Well, I guess there just wasn't any more mountains for him to climb." Elvis had Sun, Mercury, and Venus in Capricorn, as well as a conjunction of Saturn with his Moon, so we may guess that his life-long excesses were undertaken in an attempt to escape depression.

A Saturn remedy for the void created by the loss of a goal is to have another project waiting in the wings, preferably a pleasurable or professionally satisfying one. As you're working on the original goal, keep the next one in mind. Gather information related to it, jot down notes and ideas as you go along, and begin collecting the necessary materials. In this way, the next project will begin to take shape before you've finished the original one. After your big success, you can take a few days to rest and cherish your accomplishment, knowing you still have something to put all that drive to work on.

Big Daddy is Dead: A friend of mine with Moon in Capricorn and Saturn in the first house became seriously depressed when she got her Ph. D. In reaching this life-long goal, she surpassed her mother, who only had a college degree. Saturn is related to authority figures, and one of the problems about getting to the top of the mountain is that you pass a lot of people on the way. You may surpass those you originally looked up to--teachers, bosses, and others you once thought wise and powerful. Saddest of all is leaving your family behind and going on to do things they cannot understand. Rather than making you happy, this circumstance leaves you without comforting, omniscient authority figures--no big mommy and daddy to shield, guide and protect you. You feel lonely and insecure, and may mourn the loss of that security.

This is a tough problem. The Saturn remedy might be to cultivate a mentor or develop ties with successful people in your own field and others. If ego and competitiveness isn't allowed to get in the way, association with other winners can provide a mutual exchange of support and valuable information on an equal level. You can understand each other and the stress and loneliness success brings.

Reality Versus Expectation: Pisces on the third house [Capricorn rising] suggests the role that fantasy--and vision--plays in fueling our ambitions. In order to prepare for that big climb, we convince ourselves that if we can just get there, our lives will be magically transformed. We'll have love, popularity, and relief from all our problems. We live with the myth that, "when I accomplish thus and so, then I'll be happy." "If I could only..." or "When I..."

The result cannot live up to the potential we dreamed of. The word potential comes from the Latin word *potens*, which means "power." We think our goal will make us more powerful than the reality proves to be. We equate success with happiness, and when success doesn't instantaneously solve all our problems and meet all our needs, we get depressed (read angry). The top of the mountain is just a little point in space, and a rather confining one at that. Achieving the actual goal often means giving up the dream, and it's painful to replace a dream with reality. Perhaps this is why so many stop short of success--at some level, we know our vision isn't real. Hating to give up fantasy, we stop before getting too close to achievement.

Since Saturn is the reality principle, a Saturn remedy for this facet of the letdown is to be more realistic in the first place, rather than building up your expectations so high. Keep your perspective on what reaching your goal will actually do for you. Getting a Ph.D. won't automatically bring you love and fame, but it ought to get you a better job, and that's reason enough to do it. On the other hand, with Pisces on the third house of the Capricorn wheel, it's your dreams that give you strength to keep on pushing, whereas being totally realistic might keep you down at the foot of the mountain. Better a little letdown when you get there, than going nowhere at all. # # #

A KEY TO DESTINY

PROGRESSED LUNATIONS PART II

Cheng-yi Huang

The concept of Progressed Lunations as an effective astrological tool for long-term forecasting was introduced by the writer in *Considerations* Volume VI Number 1. The theory of a seven-year cycle that was formulated in the earlier article is based on the progressed New Moon, Full Moon, and Quarter Moons.

Briefly, the method works as follows:

1. Find the lunation dates in the ephemeris within the range of secondary days equivalent to a normal life span;
2. Back-calculate from the date of each lunation to the date of birth for the appropriate age and date. This is based on the standard secondary measure of one day equals one year.
3. Check for any aspects formed between the lunation and the natal planets;
4. Consider the essential nature of the natal planet that is being impacted by the lunation. Depending on whether the natal planet is itself a benefic or malefic, a good or evil seven-to-eight years period will follow the lunation;
5. When there are no aspects between the lunation and radical planets, look for aspects formed by other progressed planets to the natal bodies at the time of the lunation.

In this second article on the Progressed Lunation, two cases are presented that further demonstrate the effectiveness of this method of determining an individual's destiny. The birth times may not be accurate in either of these cases, but that does not affect the results.

1. Boris Yeltsin

Born 10:00 UT on 1st February, 1931 at 56N51 60E36⁴.

- (a) *Progressed Quarter Moon* on 27th March 1931. Effective from January 1985 to September 1991.

Quarter Moon 5°34' Cancer, trine natal Mars (orb 29'); quincunx natal Neptune (orb 33').

Main events: First secretary of Moscow City Party committee, 1985-1987; expelled from Politburo for attacking the Party leadership, 1987; quit Communist Party in 1990.

- (b) *Progressed Full Moon* on 2nd April 1931. Effective from September 1991 to September 1998.

Full Moon 12°07' Libra, square natal Jupiter (orb 9'); conjunct natal Uranus (orb 3').

Main events: elected President of the Russian Federation in June 1991; successfully defeated a coup d'etat in August 1991 and gained enormous stature worldwide.

- (c) *Progressed Quarter Moon* on 9th April 1991. Effective from September 1998 to December 2006.

Quarter Moon 19°01' Capricorn, square natal Pluto (orb 20').

Progressed lunations provide a most satisfactory explanation of Yeltsin's spectacular role in the Russian revolution of August 1991. His cycle before the failed coup was affected by Mars and Neptune, and he had been ostracized by the Communist powers. By contrast, Yeltsin's current seven-year cycle is under the joint influence of Jupiter and Uranus, with Uranus symbolizing dangerous and precarious situations. In combination with the benevolent power of Jupiter, it enabled Yeltsin to seize the opportunity presented by the tangled affairs in August 1991, and to become the Man of the Year. Between 1991 and 1998, he will achieve the peak of his life. After September 1998, he can be expected to fade from the political arena. This

4. Source: *Considerations* Vol. VI No. 2, page 70.

case offers convincing proof for the validity of Progressed Lunations.

2. *Saddam Hussein*

Born at 5:55 UT on 28th April 1937, 34N36 43E42⁵.

- (a) *Progressed Quarter Moon* on 17th May 1937. Effective from May 1956 to June 1964.

Quarter Moon, 25°57' Leo, sextile natal Pluto (orb 37').

Main events: On 1st October 1959, he failed in an assassination attempt on General Qasim.

- (b) *Progressed Full Moon* on 25th May 1937. Effective from June 1964 to May 1972.

Full Moon at 3°40' Sagittarius opposite natal Mars (orb 40'); conjunct antiscion of natal Pluto (orb 14')

Main events: Arrested and imprisoned following failed coup against General Arif in September 1964. Escaped from prison in July 1966.

- (c) *Progressed Quarter Moon* on 2nd June 1937. Effective May 1972 to January 1979.

Quarter Moon 11°15' Pisces, sesquiquare natal Jupiter (orb 35'); semisquare natal Pluto (orb 19').

Main events: became Iraq's Vice President and security chief

- (d) *Progressed New Moon* on 8th June 1937. Effective from January 1979 to January 1986.

New Moon 17°36' Gemini, opposite natal Moon's node (orb 16').

Main events: assumed Presidency in 1979. The Iran-Iraq war began in 1980.

5. Data provided by the editor, based on information published by Zip Dobyns in her quarterly, *The Mutable Dilemma*.

(e) *Progressed Quarter Moon* on 15th June 1937. Effective from January 1986 to March 1994.

Quarter Moon 24°14' Virgo, sextile natal Mercury (orb 0'); semisquare natal Uranus (orb 13').

Main events: surprise invasion of Kuwait in 1990; defeated in Gulf War in 1991.

Saddam Hussein's early cycles were influenced by Pluto. This explains his ruthless and rebellious behavior before he attained power. He became the Vice President of Iraq when his natal Jupiter was impacted. He will probably be gone before his present Uranus cycle ends in 1994.

* * *

Lunations in regular transit analyses are also of vital importance. Three months before the start of the Persian Gulf War, the writer was able to correctly predict 16th January 1991 as the date on which the war would begin. This successful prediction was based on examining a series of lunations that occurred in preceding months and relating them to the birth charts of Saddam Hussein and the U.S. President, George Bush. The New Moon on 15th January 1991, which simultaneously struck the position of the natal Mars of both Saddam and Bush, with a very close orb, was the decisive indicator for the war:

15th January 1991: New Moon at 25°20' Capricorn.

Saddam Hussein: conjunct Mars antiscion 25°39' Capricorn (orb 19').

George Bush: semisextile Mars 25°28' Aquarius (orb 7').

An individual's major periods of fortune do not occur from year to year, rather they are punctuated by the seven-year lunation cycles. The major events, those that are of life-time importance, usually occur during the brief transition period from one lunation cycle to another. When analyzing a person's life trend, the Progressed Lunation should be considered first, before anything else, as it will mark the turning points within the

human life. Other astrologers have recognized the importance of the Progressed Lunation. However, their emphasis has invariably been placed solely on the phase of the Moon involved. They have ignored the symbolism of planets aspected by the lunation which clearly determine the good or evil that will result from these Lunation Cycles.

As the above case studies and those given in the previous article clearly demonstrate, when benefic planets, such as Venus and Jupiter, are illuminated by the progressed lunation they herald a prosperous period. When Mars and other malefics are stimulated, the lunation will usher in seven years of hardship, strife, injury, even death. When Pluto is triggered by the lunation, there will be a period of retirement, divorce, or imprisonment. Neptune similarly aspected, is invariably linked with a period of confusion, deceit, or unemployment. We may conclude that a person's fate is sealed on the day he is born.

###

BOOKS CONSIDERED

Alexander Marr's *Notable Nativities*
Meriam Perego's *Predicting with Planetary Stations*
Noel Tyl's *Prediction in Astrology*

Prediction in Astrology. A Master Volume of Technique and Practice. by Noel Tyl. Published by Llewellyn, 1991. Paper, 335 pages. \$14.95.

Noel Tyl's latest book is about prediction in general. Written in a pleasant, anecdotal style it deals with prediction both in a personal counseling setting and also in mundane matters.

Tyl's technique is simple and very effective. He directs the angles and the planets of the natal chart using the movement in longitude of the secondary progressed Sun, as defined in the usual day-for-a-year manner. Hence, for the eighteenth birthday, the position of the Sun eighteen days following the day of birth (at birthtime) is found; its difference from the natal Sun is then the arc of direction to be added to the natal position of each of the angles and planets. Aspects from these directed points to the natal chart, including its midpoints, provide sufficient information to identify the various events in the life.

Ample examples are provided to ensure the reader will fully understand this Solar-Arc method of directing. There are also clear and complete explanations of how to interpret these directions in terms of a person's likely reaction when a directed body or angle aspects a natal planet. These interpretations are given for planet/angle directed to natal planet, and also for planet/angle directed to each natal midpoint. Tyl directs thirteen bodies/angles (ten planets, two angles, and the Node) and uses seventy-eight different midpoints. Interpretations for each of the directed points to each of the different midpoints are provided, in the style of Reinhold Ebertin's classic *Combination of Stellar Influences*. This facet of the book alone justifies the cost.

The author is first and foremost a counselor. Thus his descriptions of the use of the Solar Arc direction (and transits)

in counseling sessions are realistic. As every counseling astrologer discovers sooner or later, events and trends do not always come to pass at the predicted time, frequently a major direction can occur without an obvious manifestation in the life. Tyl reports on several of his prediction successes, and also on some of the failures. In the process, he explains how to integrate and systemize the complicated issues that arise, both technical and philosophical.

In addition to the explanation of the Solar Arc and its use in counseling, there is a fascinating chapter on predicting mundane matters, which deals mainly with the Iraq-Kuwait troubles on early 1991. This section, we're informed, was written in late 1990, before the event.

There are two invaluable Appendices: besides the Solar Arc directions and midpoints, mentioned earlier, there is a table of monthly planetary positions from 1940 to 2040. While such positions are easily accessible from the computer, having them in tabular form will be most useful.

There is an excess of prediction techniques available to the student, and much confusion about their use, we therefore welcome a book which provides a lucid and articulate explanation of how one astrologer handles prediction. That apart, the time spent reading it was pleasurable.

---KWG

Predicting with Planetary Stations. Includes Ephemeris of Stations 1900-2000 by Meriam Perego. Self-published, \$12.50 (within U.S.) at 4289 Hidden Valley Rd, Decatur, GA 30035.

This volume contains five sections. Most valuable is the ephemeris of stations for this century. The ephemeris is sorted in three formats. The first is chronological. The second is numerical by degree in 30° sort. This sort lists all stations at 0° regardless of sign, and so forth through the thirty degrees. The third section lists the century's stations in Zodiacal order beginning with 0° Aries and ending with 30° Pisces. The third section is especially useful for checking the activity at a given degree over a long period. The remaining two sections give useful insights and examples for utilizing the stations in prediction. Lunations and transits are highlighted in one section,

while daily or quotidian progressions are explained in the other. The author's examples of the power of stations by progression are particularly useful and have been largely omitted from astrological literature.

This valuable reference tool is clearly written and well-laid out. It is highly recommended to all astrological libraries.

--Bill Meridian

Astrologers, Kings, Politicians and Others. 66 lives rectified and analyzed by Alexander Marr. Published by Ediciones SIRIO, Pedro I, Rivera 3916 4° E, 1430 Buenos Aires, Argentina. Soft-cover. 221 pages. Also available as *Notable Nativities* from AFA, \$21.00.

Few astrologers writing today are as exact and as detailed as Alexander Marr. Over the years he has developed a system of rectification and, hence, prediction that closely relates events to the appropriate astrological indicators.

Astrologers, Kings, Politicians and Others provides detailed results of many rectifications. The lives chosen include some of the more famous astrologers (Morin, Carter, Fagan, Firebrace, Polich, Kuehr, Ebertin, Page, Addey, and others), British monarchs, U.S. Presidents, and sundry politicians and scientists. Sixty-six rectifications are given in detail, and the results of another twenty-four are also listed. For each, the rectified natal chart and the associated pre-natal epoch are shown, together with a log of the major events in the life, and the relevant primary directions and secondary progressions related to these events.

This work alone would make this book worth having, it is made particularly valuable with the inclusion of Alexander Marr's autobiography.

Alexander was born in Switzerland, the son of a South African mother and a Russian father. The family moved to Berlin in 1920, a year after Alexander's birth. His parents separated three years later, and the child was raised by his father, a dog breeder. In the late 1930s, prior to attending university, the future astrologer was conscripted into the mili-

tary, becoming first a cavalryman then a military bandsman. He was later employed on the Russian Front as a cipher expert. After the war, Alexander completed his studies, changing his major from physics to music, and became a concert violinist with several orchestras in Berlin, Dublin, and Trier. Interest in astrology began in 1948.

Few astrologers have provided anything other than snippets of information about their lives. By contrast, this autobiography is fairly comprehensive. Events are dated, and in a separate section the various directions, etc., associated with these events are listed. Many of us read biographies to better understand how a birth chart and its progressions relates to a human life, here the detail is provided in an easily understandable manner.

All of Alexander Marr's previous books have been well-worth having. Each provided a wealth of information, explanations of how best to use the more effective tools in an astrologer's work box. The present book goes a step further, and gives result after result, clearly detailing the effectiveness of the astrologer's analyses of many different lives, demonstrating the validity of Alexander Marr's techniques.

In addition to Marr's own work, this book includes some rectifications by the talented Israeli astrologer, Isaac Starkman.

---KWG

* * *

THE CAST

RITA BILUCAGLIA and **GRAZIA BORDONI** are professional astrologers who live in Milan, Italy. In March of 1991, Grazia and Rita began publishing the *Professione: Astrologo*, a quarterly review of news for their professional colleagues.

DONNA CUNNINGHAM, M.S.W., is a licensed therapist who specializes in treating addicted people and their families. She is presently writing her fifth book, a text for those who want to become (or who are) professional astrologers. Donna lives in Brooklyn, New York.

KEN GILLMAN, F.I.S., is the editor of *Considerations Magazine*. Between issues he heads a firm of statistical consultants in New York.

ROBERT GRAVES was warned by a banker that one would never grow rich writing poetry. "I replied that if there was no money in poetry, there was certainly no poetry in money, and so it was all even." He was a triple Leo, born at 4:26 UT on 24th July, 1895; Wimbledon, England: 51N25 0W12 (source: Martin Seymour-Smith). The poet died at Deyá on the island of Majorca, 6th December 1985.

CHENG-YI HUANG, a geologist, lives in Long Beach, California. At *Considerations* we continue to use his excellent computer software whenever we attempt to rectify a chart using Primary Directions.

BARBARA KOVAL, a regular contributor to the Magazine, is a professional astrologer and free-lance writer now living in Cambridge, Mass. Barbara's latest book, a text on financial matters, will soon be published by Llewellyn.

JERRY MAKRANSKY alternates his time between astrology, farming, and channeling in rural Guatemala. He writes with authority on two of these subjects. His latest book is *Primary Directions: A Primer of Calculation*.

BILL MERIDIAN is the pseudonym of a prominent investment analyst, publisher of a canny financial newsletter. Bill currently resides not so far from the locale of Operation Desert Storm.

KEN NEGUS, Ph.D., delights in his retirement. Up until five years ago he "attempted to be a full-time German Professor and a full-time astrologer, simultaneously." A double Capricorn who lives in Princeton N.J., the husband of astrologer Joan Negus continues "trying not to do things the hard way."

JACK NICHOLS, D.Sc., retired from being the head of a government scientific department in 1983. Nowadays he researches astrological techniques and enjoys his grandchildren in Melbourne, Australia.

ANDREW PATTERSON, Ph.D., lives in Johannesburg, South Africa. His first article for the Magazine, published in the previous issue, generated much positive comment.

* * *

"How is your trade, Aquarius,
This frosty night?"
"Complaints is many and various
And my feet are cold," says Aquarius.

--from *Star-talk* by Robert Graves.



CONSIDERATIONS back issues

Some of the brightest people in astrology have written in *Considerations*. Our back issues are a permanent source of ideas to reread and reflect on. If your collection is incomplete, this is an opportunity. The issues in Volumes I to III each contain 80 pages, those in the larger format of Volumes IV and V each have 68. Back issues are \$5:00 each. Writers in the first five volumes are listed below.

Vol I:1 Camille Pelland, Noah O'Daniel, Axel Harvey, Ken Gillman.

Vol I:2 Alan Richter, Maurice Poulin, Axel Harvey, Ken Gillman

Vol I:3 Alan Shepherd, Diana K. Rosenberg, Margaret Millard, Charles A. Jayne, Kay Hughey, Axel Harvey, Ken Gillman, Pat Esclavan, Michael Erlewine.

Vol I:4 John S. Wallis, Maurice Poulin, Ruth Hale Oliver, Noah O'Daniel, Al H. Morrison, John Mazurek, Alexander Marr, Jim Haynes, Axel Harvey.

Vol II:1 John Townley, Royal F. Potter, Camille Pelland, Alexander Marr, Barbara Koval, Charles A. Jayne, Kay Hughey, Axel Harvey, Irene Emery Goodale, Anne Cilliers, Nicky Buchwald.

Vol II:2 Zane Stein, Royal F. Potter, Buryl Payne, Alexander Marr, Charles A. Jayne, Axel Harvey, Irene Emery Goodale, Ken Gillman.

Vol II:3 George C. Noonan, Barbara Koval, Beth Koch, Charles A. Jayne, Axel Harvey, Bill Hansen, Irene Emery Goodale, Ken Gillman, Peter Doughty.

Vol II:4 Maurice Poulin, Al H. Morrison, Alexander Marr, Barbara Koval, Charles A. Jayne, Axel Harvey, Ken Gillman, Anne L. Cilliers.

Vol III:1 Bruce Scofield, Alexander Ruperti, Al H. Morrison, Alexander Marr, Barbara Koval, Charles A. Jayne, Dorothy B. Hughes, Axel Harvey, K. Gillman.

Vol III:2 Helen Weaver, Bruce Scofield, Noah O'Daniel, George C. Noonan, Bill Meridian, Robert Hand, Irene Emery Goodale, Michael Erlewine.

Vol III:3 Bruce Scofield, Lew Price, Maurice Poulin, Alexander Marr, Barbara Koval, Axel Harvey, Frank Gillespie, Ken Gillman, Carolyn Cauffman.

Vol III:4 Prier Wintle, Grant G. Weisbrot, Alexander Ruperti, Camille Pelland, Ruth Hale Oliver, Alexander Marr, Dorothy B. Hughes, Nicky Buchwald.

Vol IV:1 Doug Smith, Michael O'Connor, Margaret Millard, Alexander Marr, Barbara Koval, Axel Harvey, Ken Gillman, Carolyn H. Cauffman.

Vol IV:2 Prier Wintle, Helen Weaver, Doug Smith, Maurice Poulin, Bill Meridian, Alexander Marr, Susan Manuel, Barbara Koval, Edith Custer.

Vol IV:3 Prier Wintle, Grant Weisbrot, Alexander Ruperti, Alan Richter, Alexander Marr, Axel Harvey, Vincent Godbout, Carolyn H. Cauffman, Marc Beriault.

Vol V:1 Out of print.

Vol V:2 Prier Wintle, Carl Llewellyn Weschke, Henry Weingarten, Sandra Weidner, Barbara Somerfield, Alexander Ruperti, Alexander Marr, Barbara Koval, Cheng-Yi Huang, Charles Harvey, Ken Gillman, T. Patrick Davis,

Vol V:3 Prier Wintle, Noah O'Daniel, Alexander Marr, Barbara Koval, Rene Goodale, Ken Gillman.

considerations

